FBIS DAILY REPORT

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PRESIDENT ADDRESSES NATION ON BEAGLE PLEBISCITE

PY260115 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 0032 GMT 26 Jul 84

[President Raul Alfonsin speech to the nation from Government House, Buenos Aires 25 July]

[Text] Latin American integration has ceased to be a mere hope passed on from one generation to the next since the times our forefathers struggled to achieve freedom and has become an absolute necessity.

The times our Americas are experiencing are showing day by day that unity is of vital importance, and that this so-much sought unity can only be based on peace.

Moreover, rulers have a greater responsibility: They must concentrate all their efforts on those matters pertaining to the dignity of man. The dignity of man is a phrase easily uttered, but it is a concept difficult to achieve in Latin America. The dignity of man means to eradicate poverty, misery, ignorance, and the despair which millions of Latin Americans are experiencing. This is our main task. For ethical and political reasons all our efforts should be concentrated on these talks.

The specter of conflicts between our nations, the arms race which is an immediate consequence of these conflicts, in other words the risk of war, is directly undermining our capacity to overcome the main problems that are presently affecting Latin America.

In summary, Latin American unity is a prerequisite to achieving strength. Peace is a prerequisite to recovering the dignity of Latin Americans. But it is not enough to talk about peace, we must achieve it.

Each nation is confronting its own challenges in its own land. One of the challenges that Argentina must confront is the dispute over the southern region with Chile. Our administration has had no part in this dispute, but we have inherited the serious errors that have been made.

It has been the mandate of those who voted for us and the will of the immense majority of people who have expressed their wish through the many political movements to achieve a definitive solution to this dispute within the framework of the mediation headed by His Holiness Pope John Paul II. We are fulfilling this mandate. We are complying with what John Paul II said in December when he noted that just as war was created by men, peace is created in the hearts of men.

Peace is in our hearts. Therefore, we are willing to prove to the world what can be achieved when the actions of statesmen are guided by the supreme goal of peace.

It is quite possible that within a few weeks His Holiness Pope John Paul II will present to Argentina and Chile a final proposal to settle the Beagle dispute.

We want the Argentine people, all the Argentine people, to participate and take a stand regarding whether it is or is not appropriate to quickly and peacefully settle a problem which has been a cause of tension with the Republic of Chile for over a century.

I said on 10 December that this democratic government will fulfill its constitutional duty of informing the people on what is going on in the country. Compliance with this constitutional duty means that the time for lies, useless secrets, and official half-truths is over in Argentina.

The settlement of the Beagle conflict would not only constitute the end of a longstanding dispute but also, and above all, would be an essential factor for building a future that is rapidly approaching. I am referring to that integration process I mentioned at the beginning of this speech, a process which over the next few years can and must gain momentum as a precondition for the prosperity of us all.

No one is unaware of the importance of this matter. Therefore, we have deemed that it is absolutely necessary to learn the will of the Argentine people, without relinquishing the constitutional powers and duties bestowed upon the various branches of government.

Therefore, the national government has promulgated the resolutions contained in the decree which I shall now read:

In view of the report submitted by the foreign minister and considering that progress and points of agreement have been reached in the negotiations with the Republic of Chile in solving the conflict over the Beagle Channel based on the proposal made by the mediator, His Holiness Pope John Paul II, the executive branch will necessarily have to make a decision notwithstanding ratification or rejection by the honorable Congress.

This decision concerns vital interests of the Argentine public because it refers to the territorial integrity of the country and the relations with a nation to which we are linked not only by an extensive border but also and mainly by a common history and destiny.

Because of the positive development of the negotiations it was required as recommended by the honorable mediator, to keep confidential the exchange of ideas and the meaning of the objective being sought. Because of this the people were not appropriately informed about the conditions of the proposal and the negotiations carried out concerning this issue. This situation has limited the possibility for reasonable and informed public discussions which are necessary for political organizations in a democratic community to make important decisions.

Because of this the national executive branch, empowered with the rights to conclude and sign peace and border treaties aimed at maintaining good relations with foreign powers by Article 86, Clause 14 of the national Constitution, considers it necessary before making a decision to consult the opinion of the Argentine citizenry, after a period of full information and public debate in which the government will present its own judgment and can be informed of the judgments of political parties and sectors of the population.

The republican and representative nature of our regime as established in our Constitution is not an obstacle for such a consultation because there is historic precedent in the concurrent constitutions of several Argentine provinces. As Bartolome Mitre said in the constituent convention of the Buenos Aires Province in 1871, the electoral body is also an organ representing the people and is one of the government's departments along with the traditional three branches of government.

This thought allows us to state that the sovereign rights bestowed upon the people by Article 33 of the Constitution allow the opportunity of a direct consultation with the people. In this respect, a noted constitutional legal expert has said that if any tacit right should stem from the people's sovereign rights it should be the right of the citizens to express their opinion on issues which are of interest to the political community; Carlos Sanchez Viamonte, Political Law Handbook, Buenos Aires 1959.

This consultation does not imply a delegation of powers, much less a transfer of responsibilities by the executive branch, since it is clearly stated that the outcome of the survey will in no way be binding upon the executive branch which, apart from obviously giving the highest consideration and attention to the opinion of the majority, will be free to make the decision which it may deem appropriate in the light of the circumstances prevailing at the given time.

This right, enjoyed by the government to exercise its judgment independently of the outcome of a procedure of popular consultation, and its constitutional validity is also endorsed by modern constitutional legal experts.

Popular participation, furthermore, is a genuinely democratic principle which must be exercised, especially in those cases where common destiny is at play and in a case like this which will have an impact on generations to come. Therefore, the procedure for popular consultation now proposed is a useful, adequate formula to allow those constitutionally qualified bodies charged with signing and ratifying the treaty which may result from the mediation to fulfill their duties fully aware of the people's opinion.

This consultation is, of course, not binding for the other branches of government which, in the case of the legislative branch, will retain its full, absolute independence to either approve or reject the treaty in accordance with Article 67, Sections 14 and 19 of the national Constitution; and the judicial branch will also retain its right to determine whether the treaty is in keeping with basic provisions of our legal system per Article 100 of our Constitution.

Therefore, the president of the Argentine nation decrees:

Article 1: Those citizens enjoying voting rights are hereby called to voluntarily express their opinion on the consultation the executive branch will make with regard to the terms of the conclusion of the negotiations with the Republic of Chile to solve the Beagle Channel dispute.

Article 2. A positive or negative response will be requested from the voters regarding the terms of the eventual treaty, terms which will be officially disclosed with sufficient anticipation.

Article 3. The consultation will not be made in less than 30 days time, beginning from the time when the text of the treaty is approved within the scope of the papal mediation.

Article 4. The procedures established in the National Electoral Code -- Law No 19945 and its amendments -- for casting ballots and for the vote count will be applicable, except for the provision on mandatory voting.

Article 5. All citizens who have a right to vote and are registered on the lists used for the national elections held on 30 October 1983 and those citizens who present electoral identification documents which are valid for guaranteeing that their vote is genuine are entitled to cast their ballot.

Article 6. Recognized political parties will enjoy due facilities and guarantees for voicing their opinion and watching the balloting and vote counting procedure.

Article 7. The Interior Ministry is hereby empowered to issue the appropriate rules and regulations and to earmark the necessary budgetary allocations for meeting the expenses required by the implementation of the popular consultation.

Article 8. Proforma.

Buenos Aires, 25 July 1984

Confident of Approval

PY260325 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0237 GMT 26 Jul 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Jul (TELAM) -- Referring to his message on the Beagle Channel dispute which was broadcast earlier tonight over the national radio and television network, President Raul Alfonsin tonight said that he is confident that the people will give a favorable vote to this peace proposal.

Alfonsin made these remarks on leaving Government House after his speech was broadcast to the nation at the end of a lengthy cabinet meeting which was called primarily to discuss a popular consultation on an agreement with Chile on the Beagle conflict. This cabinet meeting was attended by cabinet ministers and presidential secretaries.

ENVOY ON BEAGLE ACCORD, TALKS WITH BRITAIN

PY252000 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Unattributed report from Ezeiza Airport]

[Text] Ambassador Marcelo Delpech, Foreign Ministry under secretary for border and southern affairs and head of the Argentine delegation holding negotiations at the Vatican with the Chilean delegation and the mediation office on the Beagle conflict, has arrived in Buenos Aires from Rome. Asked about the imminence of an agreement with Chile, he said:

[Begin recording] [Delpech] We are working on it; we continue to negotiate as usual. I think we have made good progress and that we have to make [words indistinct]. I think we have made significant advances and that we are nearing a solution. However, the [words indistinct] is rather spectacular and the negotiations are being carried out normally. I think we will have news [word indistinct].

[Unidentified reporter] When will the Argentine and Chilean delegations meet again?

[Delpech] We are meeting regularly. We have held six or seven meetings over the past few days.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Delpech] We are holding regular meetings, but their regularity depends on the mediation office.

[Reporter] Could there be important news in the next few days?

[Delpech] No, no, no. We are holding regular meetings to exchange views and to seek points of agreement. There is nothing special about this because we are holding work meetings with the Chilean delegation and with Msgrs (Montalbo) and (Saenz Munoz) of the mediation office.

[Reporter] Did General Etcheverry Boneo resign because he disagreed with the terms of the draft agreement?

[Delpech] To tell you the truth, I am not aware of the reasons for his decision. I believe this is a personal matter which should be explained by the general himself.

[Reporter] Ambassador, Foreign Minister Caputo has stated new meetings with the British will be proposed. Do you think this could happen?

[Delpech] Look, I don't know right now because I expect to be informed of it by the Foreign Ministry, which must have the latest details. In principle, this matter concerns the Foreign Ministry, so the Foreign Ministry will report on it.

[Reporter] We want your personal opinion. Taking into account the meeting you have held, do you think the talks could continue?

[Delpech] It is impossible to say. As you know, it is difficult to say what could happen with negotiations of this kind. [end recording]

Says Talks 'Might Resume'

PY252040 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Regarding the negotiations in Bern with the British delegation, Marcelo Delpech, the Foreign Ministry under secretary for southern affairs, has said that negotiations with the United Kingdom might resume if the parties involved arrive at an agreement. But he refused to give any details. He added that the Foreign Ministry will supply information in this regard in the next few days.

FOREIGN MINISTER CAPUTO RETURNS FROM U.S.

PY251227 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1157 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Jul (TELAM) -- Foreign Minister Dante Caputo arrived at 0835 from the United States, where he held meetings with Secretary of State George Shultz, UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, and IMF Director Jacques de Larosiere. Caputo arrived at Ezeiza International Airport on a commercial flight from Washington, and left the airport without making any comments to the press.

SPOKESMAN DENIES RUMORS OF GRINSPUN RESIGNATION

PY251830 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 24 Jul 84 p 1

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- Presidential Secretary-General German Lopez last night categorically denied Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun had resigned and claimed reports on his alleged resignation were part of a campaign to create an image of a defeated minister.

Lopez told Radio Rivadavia there had been a campaign during the weekend which climaxed yesterday "aimed at creating the image of a defeated minister...when there is no explanation for an attitude of that type on the part of the minister."

Informed sources said earlier yesterday President Raul Alfonsin was studying the possibility of replacing Grinspun following widespread criticism of his speech last Thursday in which he outlined his future policies. Other reports mentioned Central Bank President Enrique Garcia Vazquez and Aldo Ferrer, President of the Banco de la Provincia de Buenos Aires, as possible replacements.

Government sources said Grinspun had not submitted his resignation nor had it been requested, although Alfonsin and other top government officials did not approve of his speech, "Perhaps we, the men in the government, were to blame for so many rumors because frankly we thought the speech was poor and indefensible, and we therefore made some criticism which leaked through," the sources said.

But Lopez praised Grinspun's speech. "The minister made a report which, of course, was questioned by some sectors and criticized by others, but which seen objectively contains very valuable information on what the government has done up to now and will be a really significant and important guideline on the policies to be followed in future," he said. Lopez said the rumors were "one of the many publicity efforts by some sectors aimed, not at destabilizing the government because that is impossible, but at creating some fissures in government spheres through the erosion of the prestige of some of its ministers."

Rumors Said Directed at Regime

PY251834 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 25 Jul 84 p 11

[Excerpt] (NA DYN) -- Trade Secretary Ricardo Campero last night accused a so-called movement of National Opinion (MDN) of orchestrating a campaign aimed at forcing the resignation of Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun. Campero told newsmen behind the campaign was a plan which would allow President Raul Aflonsin "to reign but not rule," and the first target was the minister whose handling of the foreign debt had "some national content." He said MON included some former presidential candidates who were defeated in last October's elections "and didn't even win a parliamentary seat," but refused to give names.

EX-GENERAL PREDICTS WAR WITH CHILE OVER BEAGLE

PY251610 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0958 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Jul (EFE) -- General Benjamin Menendez, former commander of the III Corps, today stated here that "there will be a war with Chile in the future, because I do not think that anyone will like the idea of losing the South Atlantic Ocean, the Drake Passage, and the outlet to the Antarctic."

In remarks to a local radio station, the former military chief, who heads the "Movement for Sovereignty Affirmation" [Movimiento de Afirmacion de la Soberania], stated that "in the case of a possible conflict, victory will be ours." He said that the possible Argentine victory in a hypothetical war over the Beagle Channel will come because "we are a country with almost double the population, more than double the industrial power, and a population of highly superior quality."

Referring specifically to the negotiations that Chile and Argentina are carring out through the mediation of Pope John Paul II, Menendez stated that "they are not merely talks on a few barren frozen isles."

"The important thing," he added, "is whether or not one owns the land that grants sovereignty and jurisdiction over the Atlantic Ocean, because it is the coast of the adjacent country which gives sovereignty over the sea."

Gen Menendez is one of the "hardline" or ultranationalist generals who have most opposed the ratification of the papal proposal to put an end to the century-old conflict between Argentina and Chile over the Beagle Channel islands. Nevertheless, military sources have confirmed to EFE that from the very beginning of the papal mediation, the Armed Forces "have known that the islands would remain in the hands of the Chileans," and that the only thing they could do was "to take the issue to the political arena."

Menendez expressed "doubts" that the pope had reportedly said that he would withdraw from the mediation if no solution were found, "because it has not been duly explained what the mediation consists of." He added: "We must make our objectives clear. We must be the exclusive owners of the South Atlantic, of the islands, and of the Antarctic."

He added that "the British would like to usurp us from our Malvinas, Georgias, and South Sandwich Islands because they feel that these islands will grant them jursidiction over the Antarctic, which they eagerly desire."

On recalling the events of the Christmas of 1978, when Chile and Argentina were on the brink of war, Menendez stated that the Chileans accepted the Argentine decision for a papal mediation "because they were afraid of war, which they fear more than we do."

Gen Menendez concluded by saying: "I do not want a war, but a just solution. Let us not give up the mediation. Let us take advantage of it."

TALKS WITH CGT PUT OFF; STRIKE ACTIONS CONTINUE

PY251817 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 25 Jul 84 p 9

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- Talks set for yesterday between Labour Minister Juan Manuel Casella and unified General Confederation of Labour (CGT) leaders were postponed until this morning amid reports that both sides agreed more time was needed to try to work out a mutually acceptable minimum wage. It was the second time the talks were postponed, after originally having been scheduled for last Friday.

Meanwhile, on the strike front, 50,000 private-sector bank clerks began daily four-hour work stoppages which are to continue through tomorrow. A threatened 48-hour dockers' strike was averted after Casella convinced union leaders to continue wage negotiations. Unionists and labour contractors meet this morning to consider dockers' demands of a $a1,000 [peso] minimum daily wage.

Congressional sources last night said the government and the CGT might agree today to start regular meetings over the next three months to work out a mutually acceptable minimum wage. The CGT demands the figure be set at $a13,000 for July while the government has established a $a8,500 minimum for the month.

Casella met with Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli and Planning Secretary Juan Sorrouille last night, reportedly to discuss ways of getting the "socio-economic contract" talks started.

President Raul Alfonsin and Church leaders have reportedly made direct efforts over the last few days to try to keep CGT leaders at the negotiating table. Reliable sources said Alfonsin invited several unionists, Casella, and Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun to his Olivos home last weekend, though no details were provided. San Justo Bishop Rodolfo Bufano said to have acted as a mediator at a secret dinner held last Monday in a local church. Union sources said Grinspun and Casella dined with CGT secretaries-general Saul Ubaldini and Ramon Baldassini, with both sides agreeing to postpone Monday's official meeting until today. Grinspun yesterday admitted having met with CGT leaders in the last few days, but offered no details.

In other strike action, 300,000 metal workers are to start two-hour work stoppages today to demand a $a15,000 minimum monthly wage. Metal Workers' Union (UOM) Assistant Secretary Luis Guerrero yesterday charged neither employers nor the Labour Ministry has shown interest in continuing wage talks. The stoppages are to continue up to August 1 when a 62-hour national strike is set to begin. Private-sector bank clerks walk out again today at 12 noon in demand of a $a18,750 minimum wage, while clerks in the public sector are to stage half-hour solidarity strikes between 10 a.m. and 10:30. Both measures are set for tomorrow as well.

The bitterly-split Association of State Employees (ATE) yesterday announced a union congress will be held on September 7 to designate an electoral board in preparation for membership polls. The current ATE leadership, headed by Juan Horvath and tied to a CGT sector led by Jorge Triaca, is being challenged by the Anusate [expansion unknown] grouping, which is linked to a CGT sector led by Osvaldo Borda. The capital branch of the press union announced administrative board elections will be held on October 18 under the guidelines established by the union elections law passed by Congress last July 4.

RADICAL CIVIC UNION ESTABLISHES COMMISSIONS

PY251402 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0045 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 Jul (TELAM) -- The National Committee of the Radical Civic Union (UCR) announced the establishment of commissions for political advice, political action, mobilization, labor union affairs, and federal affairs during a meeting tonight at the UCR offices located at 1786 Alsina Street, Buenos Aires.

Juan Carlos Pugliese, president of the Chamber of Deputies, will act as coordinator of the political advice commission and Vice President Victor Martinez will act as delegate to the National Committee. The political action commission is made up of all the members of the UCR Executive Board with the exception of President Raul Alfonsin. Furthermore, Deputy Roberto Silva (UCR-Santa Fe Province) and leader Juan Carlos Ortiz have also been added. Deputy Cesar Jaroslavski (UCR-Entre Rios Province) will act as coordinator of the mobilization commission and leader Horacio Tolosa will act as delegate to the National Committee. Norberto Troglio, labor under secretary, will act as coordinator of the labor union affairs commission, and Deputy Luis Caceres (UCR-Santa Fe Province) will act as delegate to the National Committee. Entre Rios Governor Sergio Montiel, as he said before the talks started, will be in charge of the federal affairs commission.

FORMER PJ SECRETARY GENERAL RETURNS FROM EXILE

PY251435 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1119 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 25 Jul (TELAM) -- Upon his arrival today at Ezeiza International Airport, former Justicialist Party [PJ] Secretary General Juan Manuel Abal Medina stated that Lorenzo Miguel [vice president of the General Confederation of Labor] is a friend and a comrade with a long-standing career. He added that Mrs Peron has not led the Peronist movement for a long time.

Abal Medina returned to Argentina after 2 years in exile in Mexico, which was preceded by 6 years in asylum at the Mexican Embassy in Buenos Aires. Abal Medina said that he has returned to Argentina to cooperate with the Peronist movement in the democratization process that is being followed by all Argentines.

PERONIST LEADER MIGUEL RETURNS FROM ITALY

PY251902 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1429 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 25 Jul (TELAM) -- Lorenzo Miguel, first vice president of the National Justicialist Council, today returned to the country from Italy. He left Ezeiza International Airport without making a statement.

CHUBUT GOVERNOR PRESSES ALFONSIN FOR PROMISED AID

PY191834 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1523 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Jul (DYN) -- Chubut provincial Governor Atilio Viglione today asked President Raul Alfonsin that the national government deliver to Chubut Province "the allocations pledged" since "we have not received a single peso" so far, Viglione stated.

After meeting with the chief of state, Viglione told the press that Alfonsin showed "great concern and was almost demoralized when he learned about the situation, and pledged to look into this matter personally to find a satisfactory solution." The governor added that "only the provinces in the Patagonia have unfortunately not received anything" from the national government.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADORS TO VENEZUELA, BRAZIL -- Buenos Aires, 10 Jul (TELAM) -- The national executive branch has appointed Julio Colombo and Rafael Vazquez as Argentine ambassadors to Venezuela and Brazil, respectively. The appropriate approvals from the host countries have already been received. [Summary] [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0155 GMT 11 Jul 84 PY]

NEW NORWEGIAN ENVOY -- Buenos Aires, 10 Jul (TELAM) -- At noon President Raul Alfonsin received the credentials of the new Norwegian ambassador to Argentina, Arne Kapsto. The ceremony was held in the White Hall of Government House. [Excerpt] [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1641 GMT 10 Jul 84 PY]

TIERRA DEL FUECO GOVERNOR -- Deputy Adolfo Luis Sciurano has been appointed governor of Tierra del Fuego. Sciurano is replacing the late Ramon Trajo Noel. [Summary] [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 13 Jul 84 PY]

SILES TO ATTEND QUITO PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION

PY251915 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] President Hernan Siles Zuazo will attend the ceremony marking the transfer of power in Ecuador. This report is included in a cable from Quito, which states that Bolvian President Hernan Siles Zuazo will attend the transfer of power in Ecuador on 10 August, according to the Foreign Ministry. Siles is the sixth president who has confirmed his presence at the ceremony in which Christian Social leader Leon Febres will assume the presidency of Ecuador. The presidents of Colombia, Argentina, Venezuela, and Panama have announced they, too, will attend. At least six Latin American foreign ministers are also expected to attend the ceremony, in addition to the vice presidents of the United States and of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet.

ARANIBAR DISCUSSES EFFECTS OF POSSIBLE LIENS

PY251932 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Excerpt] During an impromptu press conference last night, Planning and Coordination Minister Ernesto Aranibar said that it will be a hard blow to Bolivia if creditor banks attach the little property it has, because Bolivia is trying to reactivate and to stabilize its economy. Aranibar was referring to the threat made by the creditor banks committee to attach Bolivia's foreign bank accounts, property, aricraft, etc. However, Aranibar did not dismiss the possibility of the creditor banks adopting this measure.

LECHIN, ARANIBAR ON FOREIGN DEBT MORATORIUM

PY252033 Paris AFP in Spanish 1626 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Excerpts] La Paz, 25 Jul (AFP) --COB [Bolivian Labor Federation] Executive Secretary Juan Lechin Oquendo today stated in La Paz that President Hernan Siles Zuazo's government has violated the agreements with the COB on a partial moratorium on the foreign debt by accepting a 90-day term for settling its commitments with the international private banks.

Planning Minister Ernesto Aranibar Quiroga simultaneously stated that there is no classified document with the creditor banks by which Bolivia commits itself not to defer the payment of interests and amortizations totaling $720 million this year. What is sought is not to pay the debt temporarily, something which could take a day or 10 years, until economic conditions permit us to make the payments, Lechin Oquendo added.

In turn, Aranibar stressed that the risk of an embargo has existed since September 1983 when the then military government failed to comply with the payment of capital amortizations. Besides the possibility of embargoes against Bolivia there is also a possibility that the consortium of banks will split and that each bank will take the action that is best suited for its convenience, Aranibar added. The world is full of possibilities. A third world war is also a possibility; all it takes is to push a button, Quiroga Aranibar concluded.

REPORTAGE ON FOREIGN DEBT FINANCING MOVES

Spanish Banks Agree on Bonds

PY251327 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 19 Jul 84 p 19

[Text] Brasilia -- Yesterday the idea of transforming part of Brazil's foreign debt into bonds attracted new supporters. Enrique Mas, president of the Bank of Bilbao (coordinator of the Brazilian debt in Spain), yesterday told Oswaldo Colin, president of the Bank of Brazil, that the Spanish bankers, as is the case with Swiss bankers, will accept this alternative for collecting the $3 billion that they have lent to Brazil. Enrique Mas, who is the third international banker this week to have lunch with Finance Minister Ernane Galveas, has reported that the Spanish banks also endorse the opening of the Brazilian market to foreign investments. Mas feels that this measure would reduce the debt and attract foreign capital to Brazil. He added that Spanish financial institutions intend to continue investing in Brazil, because "they have an understanding attitude toward developing nations.

Mas said that the Brazilian surplus is positive, and he identified the big evil of the Brazilian economy as inflation. "If inflation is not curbed, it will turn into a cancer and change the beliefs of businessmen, who will stop worrying about production and only think of financial speculation," Mas declared.

Concerning the issue of the foreign debt, Mas endorsed the negotiation of multi-year refinancing agreements. However, he admitted that "some unknown factors" hamper banking operations, factors such as the rise in interest rates and that of the dollar exchange rate, in addition to the outcome of the presidential elections in the United States. Mas believes that U.S. monetary policy even affects countries which are not indebted, like France, England, the FRG, and Austria. Mas stated that the international negotiations on the debt call for sacrifices both from the debtors, "which are obliged to reduce the rate of growth in their economies due to the adjustment process dictated by the IMF," and from the creditors, "which should start to operate with long-term loans and not with 6- or 7-year loans." He warned, however, that these agreements must be met. "The international bankers are not willing to commit more money to countries that do not have an economic program that has been approved by the IMF."

Better Conditions Sought

PY251952 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 1555 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] The Brazilian Government will ask its creditors for better conditions in the payment of its foreign debt in 1985. The government wants a longer grace period, lower commission rates, and a multiyear schedule for the payment of interest and principal, trying to prevent the accumulation of payments due next year. In this regard, Central Bank President Alfonso Celso Pastore said that the country's good trade balance performance is giving the country better chances for a renegotiation. He also confirmed that he will travel to the United States at the beginning of August to hold preliminary talks with U.S. bankers.

Meanwhile, U.S. bankers are happy because the interest rate there is high while inflation is very low. The most pessimistic report predicts an inflation rate of 4.1 percent this year in the United States. To have a better understanding of the situation in the United States, the cost of living increased only 0.2 percent in June.

REPORTAGE ON PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE SELECTION

PMDB, PDS To Draft Agreement

PY250350 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 24 Jul 84 p 3

[Excerpts] Brasilia -- Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party [PMDB] President Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes has states that "theoretically speaking there is an agreement." Meanwhile, Senator Marco Maciel confirmed that "we could say that by now a solution within the ranks of the Social Democratic Party [PDS] is out of the question." Both had just left a meeting between the PMDB and the organizers of the PDS Liberal Front, at the office of Brazilian Vice President Aureliano Chavez.

During the 23 July meeting, which started at 1800 and ended 3 hours later, former PDS President Jose Sarney promised the PMDB that the Liberal Front will give Tancredo Neves 63 votes at the electoral college: 41 federal deputies, 7 senators and 15 legislative assembly deputies. The PMDB accepted without any objections the inclusion of nine items in the program of the opposition candidate, items which the Liberal Front proposed as a prerequisite for an agreement.

In order to put the accord of the so-called Democratic Alliance -- a merger of the opposition and PDS dissidents -- formally on paper, as the organizers of the Liberal Front and the PMDB agreed yesterday, there must be approval by the PMDB Executive Board which will meet today in Brasilia, and a few minor details.

The ceremony at which the ticket of the Democratic Alliance will be launched will take place in Minas Gerais, according to Ulysses. However, no definite date has been set although PMDB leaders have mentioned 4 August as a possible date. Ulysses pointed out that although "theoretically there is an accord, the various agreements must be formally stated and the responsibilities of the various parties outlined."

The Liberal Front was represented at yesterday's meeting by Vice President Aureliano Chaves, Senators Jose Sarney and Marco Maciel and Deputies Jaime Santana, Jose Lourenco and Saulo Queiroz. The PMDB was represented by Deputies Ulysses Guimaraes and Freitas Nobre, and Senators Alfonso Camargo and Humberto Lucena.

These are the nine [as published] points which the Liberal Front demanded from the PMDB in order to support Tancredo Neves, although other items may be added in the course of future meetings between PMDB representatives and PDS dissidents:

The election of Tancredo Neves' successor will be direct.

The presidential term in office will be reduced from 6 to 4 years.

The campaign committee of the current governor of Minas Gerais will be made up equally of members of the PMDB and the Liberal Front, and will operate by consensus.

Tancredo Neves must rely more on news media than on public rallies.

There will have to be compulsary agreements at the state level between the PMDB and the members of the Liberal Front.

Tancredo Neves' nomination will be formally announced, possibly on 4 August in Minas.

Party reorganization will be one of Tancredo Neves' commitments to the Liberal Front.

A basic common program will be drafted by the PMDB and the Liberal Front this week.

PSD To Choose Candidate 11 Aug

PY251542 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Carlos Rodrigues report from Brasilia]

[Excerpts] The Social Democratic Party [PDS] will choose its presidential candidate on 11 August. The PDS Executive Board yesterday met here in Brasilia and called upon the National Directorate to approve the new date.

Yesterday, at the same meeting, the main PDS leaders said that the unity of the party must be achieved through discussion and not by force.

President Figueiredo yesterday afternoon told the president of the PDS, Deputy Augusto Franco, that he will not influence the choosing of the candidate before the PSD convention is held in August, when the PSD candidate will be chosen.

BRIEFS

URANIUM NEGOTIATIONS WITH FRENCH -- Nuclebras is currently negotiating with French corporations the funding necessary for the industrial utilization of uranium and phosphates of the Itataia deposit in Ceara State. The Public Relations Office of the Brazilian Mines and Energy Ministry today released a bulletin stating that Itataia is the largest uranium deposit in the country. Its estimated reserves are 142,000 tons. [Text] [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 23 Jul 84 PY]

ITAMARATY ECONOMIC POST VACANT -- The post of head of Itamaraty's Economic Cabinet is temporarily vacant due to the appointment of its chief, Ambassador Carlos Proenca Rosa, to represent Brazil in international organizations in Vienna. [Text] [Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 25 Jul 84 PY]

BRAZILIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES ON VISIT

PY260258 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro today arrived in Chile on a 2-day visit. Saraiva Guerreiro will meet there twice with his Chilean counterpart, Jaime del Valle, and will be received by Chilean President Pinochet. Saraiva Guerreiro today started his talks with Del Valle, first the two of them alone and then with advisers from the two countries. Correspondent (Otavio Gouvin), who is now in Chile, spoke on Saraiva Guerreiro's trip:

[Begin recording] Speaking of the reason for his visit to Chile, Saraiva Guerreiro said that the Brazilian foreign minister does not need a special reason for visiting Chile. Saraiva Guerreiro added that the two countries have no problems in their relations. Saraiva Guerreiro went on to say that in the talks with his Chilean counterpart they will discuss bilateral and regional issues. However, Saraiva Guerreiro stated that Brazil and Chile have convergent points of view on many issues. [end recording]

Saraiva Guerreiro will be feted tonight by the Chilean foreign minister. Tomorrow morning they will participate in the opening of a seminar on technology for development which is sponsored by Itamaraty, the National Council for Scientific and Technological Development, and the Funding Authority for Studies and Projects. Saraiva Guerreiro will be received at noon by President Pinochet who thereafter will host a luncheon for him at La Moneda Palace, which is the seat of the Chilean Government.

AIR CHIEF, DEFENSE MINISTER ON UPDATING AIRCRAFT

PY251452 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] Following the signing of a commercial agreement between the Spanish Aeronautics Company, Inc, [CASA], and the Chilean National Aeronautics Company, General Fernando Matthei, who has completed his 6th year as Chilean Air Force [FACH] commander, said that Chile must replace its planes.

[Begin Matthei recording, in progress]...for the Air Force the replacement within 6 to 7 years of all training equipment, both the Pillan planes and the (?CASA) T-36 Halcon jets. Our planes must be replaced because they have been used for many years and, even though they receive very good maintenance, they are obsolete. For many years now, even long before I became FACH commander, we have been awaiting an opportunity such as this to build planes in our country. But since that possibility appeared so remote and so difficult to implement, and since there were so many things to do, we never thought we could actually make it. [end recording]

Gen Matthei also referred to the present situation of the FACH and to his 6 years as FACH commander. He said he was optimistic but [passage indistinct]. He also said that the operation involves no credit because it is financed with FACH budget allocations. The ceremony was attended by Defense Minister Patricio Carvajal. Asked about the recent purchase of Mirage planes by (?Peru) for $800,000 [as heard], he replied that he was not supposed to comment on purchases made by other countries because they are sovereign nations that are aware of their own needs. I have no comments to make on this subject, he remarked. However, he pointed out that there is an air power imbalance in the southern cone. He added that it is well known that we are behind our neighbors insofar as equipment is concerned. Concerning the agreement signed with the Spanish firm CASA, Carvajal said it is a significant step forward in self-sufficiency. We have seen, he stressed, how some countries have halted the sale of military equipment to Chile on political grounds. This action has undermined our independence. Therefore, what we are doing now is very important, Carvajal concluded.

BETANCUR WILL NOT HOLD DIALOGUE WITH TRAFFICKERS

PA252007 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 20 Jul 84 p 1

[Quotation marks as published]

[Text] Colombian President Belisario Betancur said yesterday that there has never been, there is not now, nor will there ever be any kind of agreement between the government and the signers of a memorandum delivered to Attorney General Carlos Jimenez Gomez in Panama City.

The president issued an official communique from the Secretariat of Information and Press of the Presidency of the Republic explaining the dealings between certain prominent public figures with drug traffickers in Panama.

The Text of the Communique

"Former President Alfonso Lopez Michelsen made a verbal and precise report to President Betancur on his meeting with persons linked to drug trafficking during his stay in Panama in May, while he was observing that country's presidential elections. Lopez Michelsen said he believed the purpose of the meeting was simply for these persons to convey their position, without any compromise. Also, upon his return from an official trip to Panama in connection with the $13.5 million Chase Manhattan Bank theft, Attorney General Jimenez Gomez delivered to President Betancur a purely informative memorandum. As the attorney general has stated, the Constitution grants his office independence from the Executive Branch. So, acting within his legal rights, he gave the document to the president without first receiving orders from him.

Neither former President Lopez Micelsen nor Attorney General Jimenez Gomez suggested to the Colombian Government that it consider any type of dealings with the signers of the memorandum.

The government has made it clear that under no circumstances will there be a dialogue relating to matters subject to law. This position has become apparent through repeated actions confirmed by the Supreme Court of Justice. Therefore, there has not been, there is not now, nor will there ever be any kind of understanding between the government and the signers of the memorandum.

The president expressed the hopes that, keeping in mind the nation's highest interests and most of all the long peace process, Congress and other forums will speed up all necessary debates that may lead to maintaining public credibility and to reestablishing normalcy, particularly those debates that, based on the good will of the parties and their friendly relations, strengthen specific agreements on indispensable legislative action to give new impetus to the search for peace and to our political, economic, and social development.

HUANCAYO MAYOR'S MURDER ATTRIBUTED TO RIGHT

PY251422 Lima Cadena Panamericana Television in Spanish 0315 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Excerpts] Huancayo's leftist mayor, Saul Munoz, was shot to death this morning while jogging in an open field in the district of Tambo. Two women, presumed members of the Shining Path group, intercepted him and fired, killing him instantly.

Shortly after the murder, First Councilman (Juan Tutil), who also belongs to the United Left, was installed as the new mayor. He immediately decreed a 3-day mourning period. He has stated that the Shining Path did not commit the crime.

[Begin recording] [(Tutui)] We immediately reported to the Peruvian people the unfortunate and regretful event that has taken place in Huancayo, that is, that the legal representative of the city, the major himself, has been murdered.

[Unidentified reporter] Would you say that the Shining Path is responsible for this event?

[(Tutui)] We by no means agree with this theory. We do, however, agree with the theory that this is the work of the right. [end recording]

ARMED FORCES PATROL AMBUSHED IN HUANTA PROVINCE

PY251502 Lima Cadena Panamericana Television in Spanish 0315 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] It has been reported in Ayacucho that several bodies have been found in rural areas and that an Armed Forces patrol has been ambushed in Huanta Province. Our correspondent Mario Cueto Cardenas has further details on this.

[Begin recording] The wave of violence is bringing great sorrow and suffering to many families in Ayacucho Department. Four bodies of young boys and girls have been found in the region of Huayhuacondo, east of Ayacucho. Travelers passing through this sector have reported that several bodies were left on the side of the road leading to (Segeslambra).

Moreover, an Armed Forces patrol was ambushed yesterday between Mahuaypampa and San Jose de Secce, in the Province of Huanta, north of Ayacucho. The number of casualties among the troops and the attackers is not yet known.

In Ayacucho, an apparent calm prevails, but the situation is tense due to the frequent blackouts. The forces of order last night carried out scores of raids in the district of San Juan Bautista, arresting hundreds of men and women of all ages, many of whom are still being held at the military and police garrisons. [end recording]

POLICE SOURCES REPORT DEATH OF 30 PEASANTS

PY241317 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0308 GMT 24 Jul 84

[Text] Lima, 23 Jul (EFE) -- Police sources today reported that approximately 100 alleged members of Shining Path have killed 30 peasants in the village of Anchihuay, La Mar Province, Ayacucho Department. The subversives launched their attack on 20 July ransacking the village and setting fire to several dwellings.

ARMY CHIEF, INTERIOR MINISTER CITED ON DIALOGUE

PY252200 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] Army Commander in Chief Lieutenant General Hugo Medina has said that the dialogue under way at the Joint Staff headquarters is becoming dangerously similar to the kind of talks that were held at the Parque Hotel. Gen Medina charged that some politicians who are not attending the talks on the one hand, and some mass media that have published inaccurate reports on the other have disseminated information about statements that were not actually made at the negotiating table. The commander said that the government will probably adopt no new measures to ease tensions before tomorrow, as had been announced by some politicians. Gen Medina said that even though mass media play a significant role, the negotiations that politicians and Armed Forces representatives are holding are much more important.

This is what Gen Medina told reporters a few minutes ago at the Foreign Ministry building:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] When will the ban on the Broad Front and the Christian Democratic Party be lifted? Will that be before Thursday 26 July?

[Medina] Probably not before Thursday, but either on Thursday 26 or Friday 27 July.

[Reporter] This is a condition to which parties have tied the negotiations which, as you know, will begin on Thursday 26 July.

[Medina] Look, Miss, just a short time ago I told radio reporters about our concern over the danger of turning this dialogue into something very similar to the talks held at the Parque Hotel.

[Reporter] Is the dialogue going to that direction?

[Medina] I beg your pardon?

[Reporter] Is the dialogue going in that direction?

[Medina] I am afraid it is.

[Reporter] Is that your own opinion or the opinion of the three commanders?

[Medina] I'd rather say it is the opinion of the three commanders. The press has a logical urge for news. However, the role of the press has been distorted several times by the publication of reports that are not completely accurate or that cover statements by people who are not versed on the subject. I don't believe that those who have attended the dialogue have made inaccurate statements. But there are some people who have not attended the dialogue and who are giving their opinion just the same [words indistinct].

[Reporter] Commander, are you putting the blame on the press or on those politicians who do not sit at the negotiating table but speak out just the same?

[Medina] I am placing the blame both on the politicans who do not participate in the dialogue but who speak out and, to some extent, on the press.

[Reporter] What should be the role of the press?

[Medina] The press should accurately report the facts. Forty eight hours ago, a newspaper -- and please do not ask me for the name of the paper -- reported that there were prisoners being held at military barracks under the terms of the state of security. This is absolutely inaccurate and nobody could have said it. This is an example of how the press distorts its role.

[Reporter] You mean the press should be held responsible for the accuracy of the information supplied by the source?

[Medina] Right. And when they say something they should be held responsible for it.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Medina] [Answer indistinct] [end recording]

In turn, the interior minister has stated that the difference that has been noticed in the police reaction to rallies held in the interior and in MOntevideo is due to concrete facts.

The negotiations between the political parties and the Armed Forces are to be resumed tomorrow at approximately 1000. It was reported that the leaders of the political parties are to meet an hour before. Meanwhile, it is uncertain how long this first meeting between the commanders in chief and the delegates of the political parties will take, this being a meeting where constitutional issues will be discussed.

Interior Minister General Julio Cesar Rapela stated this noon that the atmosphere that is necessary for holding the negotiations is being disrupted by marches, especially in Montevideo, marches which are particularly offensive to government officials. Gen Rapela said that in the interior of the country quite often the people who organize the demonstrations concur with the police chiefs on where and when such demonstrations are to be held. Concerning Montevideo, however, Gen Rapela said, among other things, the following:

[Begin recording] [Rapela] As you say, demonstrations are being held daily, not only along 18 de Julio Avenue in Montevideo but also throughout the entire country. These demonstrations are changing; on weekends they decrease notably. Demonstrations are being held primarily on workdays and in some places, as I have already stated to other news media, the demonstrations are not only peaceful but also friendly. I am calling such demonstrations friendly because they are even held in agreement with the police, choosing a time that does not interfere with police activities. Therefore, this is the reason that in some places no measures are taken while in others measures are adopted. This is so because there is a notable difference in the way the demonstrators are acting. In some places, as is the case in Paysandu, where policemen have been stoned by demonstrators who injured a police officer in the eye, action had to be taken and teargas had to be used in order to disperse the demonstrators since it was impossible to do so by other means. The same thing happened in Montevideo yesterday, where demonstrators insulted national authorities, attempted to break into the Foreign Ministry, and broke into the City Hall, where they insulted the authorities. Therefore, this type of demonstration obviously is not peaceful and obliges us to take measures since it is our duty to maintain public order and tranquillity.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Minister [words indistinct].

[Rapela] As long as they justify it, such steps will be taken. [end recording]

These were the statements made by Gen Rapela who participated this noon in the opening of the new ceremony hall at the Foreign Ministry along with the president of the Republic, the Army commander in chief, the Navy commander in chief, and other national, civilian, and military authorities.

350 DETAINED DURING BLANCO PARTY DEMONSTRATIONS

Ferreira's Wife Arrested

PY252315 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2114 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] Montevideo, 25 Jul (EFE) -- The police of the Uruguayan military government today disrupted a demonstration against the government that demanded the release of Blanco Party leader Wilson Ferreira Aldunate. According to Blanco party sources, the police arrested 350 persons who were taken to five different places where they are being questions. Among those arrested is Ferreira Aldunate's wife, Susanna de Ferreira.

Blanco Party members have been holding daily demonstrations and carrying placards at the Plaza de la Independencia, which is located across from Government House. Up to now, there were no incidents reported, but today there were clashes between the two groups and people were also arrested.

The demonstrators demanded the release of their leader who was arrested on 16 June and brought to trial by the military courts on charges of his alleged involvement in subversion and in crimes against the nation.

This is the third time in approximately 1 month that Ferreira Aldunate's wife has been arrested. In all cases it was because she was demanding her husband's freedom.

Party Leaders Face Prosecution

PY252005 Paris AFP in Spanish 1449 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Montevideo, 25 Jul (AFP) -- Five members of the traditional Uruguyan Blanco Party, among them two convention delegates, will be tried by the courts for their alleged involvement in the demonstrations that the Blanco Party is staging to demand the release of their leader Wilson Ferreira Aldunate. The announcement, which was made by an official source, came after several rallies were held yesterday, rallies where, according to the police, the Blanco Party members chanted slogans offensive to government officials, hampered pedesterians from freely walking through Plaza de la Independencia and violently broke into the City Hall building.

INTENDANT ANNOUNCES PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY

PY260025 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Excerpt] The National or Blanco Party majority has a number of commitments with the left. This is what Montevideo's intendant said this noon when he announced his candidacy for the presidency. His running mate will be Dr Cristina Maeso. Dr Juan Carlos Paysse added that this commitment will not prevent him from performing his duties as Montevideo's intendant.

Upon being interviewed by Radio El Espectador and the Cadena de Oro, Paysse referred to some points in his platform, a platform which resembles that of the Herrerista National Council:

[Begin recording] [Paysse] The principles which we are going to define, let us say, in ideal terms, are just a few and I feel that all of us, nationalists, Blanco Party followers, citizens in general, must endorse them. I (?expressly) said today that most of us have not done so in the field of international law. However, it is also very important to pass judgement on the implementation of these principles. If principles exist and are later interpreted, that is, are put into practice, as Herrera [founder of the Herrerista National Council tendency in 1954] used to say to put into practice what the mind projects... [Paysse changes thought] Very well, but in that task of putting into practice what the mind projects things change. That is where things change. There must be a sense of how to use them, in what manner, what protests to use, what tactics to use, how far one can go. All of this is related to concrete circumstances. Therefore, it is quite possible that the Herrerista National Council has the same principles, because (?our) principles originate in the Herrerista principles, but I did not come on the boat with Ferreira, I would not have come on the boat that carried Ferreira. It is right there where I find a difference, a complete difference.

I cannot understand how one can uphold the nationalist and Herrerista position on one hand and support a majority ticket on the other, a majority which I feel has thrown the country off-balance from its nationalist axis and has taken it toward the left, thus exposing it to the danger of losing its identity, which comes from very deep within...

[Unidentified reporter, interrupting] Are you calling the Blanco Party majority leftist?

[Paysse] I am not calling them leftists. I am saying that they have a lot of commitments with the left, commitments which they have entered over the past few years and which would be burdensome should they have to govern and very dangerous for the future of the country.

[Reporter] I beg your pardon. I am taking you behind the scenes, but that very same leftist is now negotiating along with the Colorado Party in the Multiparty group and is also negotiating with the Armed Forces. What is your comment on this?

[Paysse] I feel that pluralism must exist. I believe that as long as all forces behave soundly and seek to reach an agreement [words indistinct] but we must all know who they are and who they represent. A casual partner, at a given time, who seeks to obtain a common document is different from a partner in the government or a partner in business where everyone knows what side each one will be on. [end recording]

TRADE AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH COSTA RICA

FL251839 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1623 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] Mexico City, 24 Jul (NOTIMEX) -- The Foreign Secretariat has reported that Mexico and Costa Rica signed a trade cooperation agreement which provides for mutual granting of concessions, allowing trade to strengthen and become more dynamic in accordance with economic policies.

The decree enacting the bilateral trade agreement, published today in the federation's official newspaper and based on the 1980 Treaty of Montevideo, Article 25, emphasizes granting preferential treatment with respect to taxes and other restrictions applied by the two countries on the importation of negotiated products.

The Mexican-Costa Rican trade agreement provides preferential tariffs, but clearly states that each party reserves the right to apply safeguards on imports when these products cause or threaten to cause serious harm to certain productive activities, safeguards which will not include any type of compensation to the affected country.

The benefits derived from these preferences will exclusively include products manufactured and originating in territories of the parties.

The two countries also agreed to extend every possibility of trade promotion between the two, such as exchanging trade delegations and missions and participating in trade fairs and expositions.

NICARAGUA'S RUIZ ON TRADE, CONTADORA EFFORTS

FL252001 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0125 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Trade] Mexico City, 24 Jul (NOTIMEX) -- Actions taken by Mexico and Nicaragua require constant communication because, otherwise, recent peace efforts by the Contadora Group would not have been possible, Nicaraguan Planning Minister Henry Ruiz asserted here today.

During a press conference at the National Council for Population, Ruiz stressed that talks between Nicaragua and the United States are moving forward but, because of a secrecy agreement between the two sides -- you understand -- the outcome will gradually be known, emphasizing: They are serious talks.

Referring to the supply of crude oil and byproducts, Minister Ruiz said it is continuing despite small vicissitudes. The San Jose Treaty continues in effect. Payments are being made as had been agreed.

During his 24-hour visit to Mexico, the Nicaraguan planning minister, who was accompanied by his country's ambassador to Mexico, Eduardo Jarquin, met with Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid and Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor.

EL SALVADOR

DUARTE ARRIVAL STATEMENT ON EUROPEAN, U.S. VISITS

PA260040 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 2312 GMT 25 Jul 84

[President Jose Napoleon Duarte's statement at Ilopango International Airport in San Salvador upon his return from a tour of Europe and the United States -- live broadcast in progress]

[Text] ...since we will call a press conference at the proper time and as soon as possible to give you the details.

I simply wish to report that the trip to Europe -- the objectives of which were essentially to visit the FRG and the European Common Market in Belgium, through the European Parliament -- was such a success that I began to receive cables from all of the European countries. I received invitations from countries such as Ireland and others, including the Netherlands, Britain, Belgium, Luxembourg, Spain, of course, Portugal, and other nations.

With the tour already prepared, we agreed to visit the following countries: First, Germany, where I accomplished my mission. We then visited Belgium, France, Britain, and Portugal. However, while we were still in Germany, and later, while we were in Belgium, I received an official invitation from the President of the United States to visit the United States, where he was to receive me at the White House. Since not all of this could be accomplished, the U.S. President himself was kind enough to provide us with transportation from New York to Washington, so that we could attend the meetings in Washington and New York.

In New York -- I mean in Washington -- I met with the U.S. President at the White House and then with leaders of Congress, with whom we discussed aid to El Salvador. In the 3 weeks that they will be in session, they are going to make a strenuous effort to see if it is possible to deal with the supplemental aid that we requested on this occasion.

Following this meeting I traveled to New York, where we made a number of appearances. We met at the United Nations with the UN secretary general, where we discussed the aid that the United Nations can provide El Salvador. We also met with the representative of UNICEF, which is currently making a study to see if we can carry out an overall vaccination program throughout our country. They will give us a response within 15 days.

We were also received by all of the diplomatic representatives at the United Nations, and attended a dinner at the invitation of U.S. Ambassador Mrs Kirkpatrick.

The next morning I appeared on the "Today Show," a coast-to-coast program with the largest listening audience in the United States. I have appeared on this program on other occasions. I later visited and was received by all of the editors of the most important newspapers in New York -- THE NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE and THE NEW YORK TIMES. THE NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE and THE NEW YORK TIMES newspaper are two completely different publications.

We then had an official luncheon hosted by the U.S. businessmen, from the association of U.S. businessmen, who gave me a gold medal, which I have brought with me. Mr Rockefeller himself pinned it on me.

I briefed them there on El Salvador's policy on foreign investments. I made a proposal to them as I have done to the entire nation, that we enter into a social compact within which we would contribute our efforts as Salvadorans and they would contribute their efforts as capitalists to do great things for the good of our homeland. I then held a news conference, and immediately returned to El Salvador.

This is a chronological recounting of the events. As you can see, I fulfilled my mission. This was not a trip intended to kill time but for work, to visit governments, to talk with the most important government leaders in Europe and the world, from Chancellor Kohl to President Mitterrand, and each of the members of the most important governments in Europe and America.

I think that you will have enough with this initial information to make a report. We received worldwide coverage. All of the world's newspapers published reports about us. I have no idea of how it was here. I hope that all of the Salvadoran newspapers published some news, because the trip received complete coverage throughout the world, for it was regarded as momentous. It was so important -- and this is just to give you an example -- that President Mitterrand received me exactly 1/2 hour before reshuffling his cabinet. This shows the interest that existed in Europe in this trip. In the United States, it took place at the very time that the transcendental topic of the presidential candidacies of the largest parties, the Republican and Democratic Parties, was being discussed.

I think that this is enough information for your reports. I understand that the minister of foreign relations is going to appear on television with a report and that he will be showing some of the films we made throughout our trip, so that you can correctly assess it. Thank you very much.

Comments on French Talks

PM251217 Paris LE MONDE in French 21 Jul 84 p 20

[Unattributed report: "Mr Duarte Thinks France 'Understands' His Policy in El Salvador"]

[Text] Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte, spending a few hours in Paris, said on Thursday 19 July after a meeting with Mr Mitterrand at the Elysee that he thought France "understood" his policy aimed at opening a "national dialogue" with all the forces in his country. Asked if he thought the French Government had changed its position since the 1981 French-Mexican statement recognizing the guerrillas as a "representative political force," Mr Duarte replied: "I do not think France's policy has changed. It is the situation in El Salvador which has changed, especially since my election as president." The Salvadoran president also saw External Relations Minister Cheysson. With regard to that meeting he said: "I asked him to ensure that the EEC foreign ministers do not come empty-handed to their meeting with their Central American counterparts." A meeting among the representatives of the two regions will be held in the Costa Rican capital, San Jose, in September.

VIDES CASANOVA MAKES ANNUAL REPORT TO ASSEMBLY

PA251520 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 24 Jul 84

[Text] Salvadoran Defense Minister General Carlos Eugenio Vides Casanova told the Legislative Assembly today that the Armed Forces' quota of sacrifice is large but that this has not stopped them and will not stop them in the struggle imposed from abroad.

Vides Casanova was the first minister of state to give his report for the period 1 July 1983 to 1 July 1984. In his report, he notes that during this period 1,055 members of the Armed Forces were killed defending the national territory in various areas of conflict in El Salvador. He also disclosed that 1,763 soldiers were seriously wounded and 270 were missing after clashed with the extreme left in various parts of the country.

These deaths, he said, included 23 officers, 25 cadets, and 1,007 soldiers who were killed in actions in various parts of the country in clashes with the Salvadoran guerrillas who have occupied rural sectors for the past 5 years.

He added that the members of the Armed Forces are proud of the integrity they have maintained in the past few years, especially in their quest to preserve the (?quality) of the elections that led to the establishment of the present government. He noted: Using this honesty as a reference, we are sure our strength will overcome, through reason and intelligence, all difficulties and obstacles in our path, because we are showing that all Salvadorans are capable of overcoming controversy through a national agreement on basic issues.

Vides Casanova told the assembly that the Armed Forces had increased their membership since 1 July 1983 by 17.65 percent in an effort to comply with the constitutional mandate of defending the sovereignty of the state and the integrity of its territory, as well as preserving peace, tranquillity, public security, and compliance with the law.

In another part of his speech at the Legislative Assembly, Vides Casanova said that the Armed Forces awarded a total of 4,629 military decorations, including medals to combatants, medals for those wounded in combat, medals of valor, medals for those killed in combat, and medals for those devoted to service.

LA VOZ PANAMERICANA INTERVIEWS FDR'S UNGO

PA251549 San Salvador La Voz Panamericana in Spanish 1815 GMT 24 Jul 84

[FDR President Guillermo Manual Ungo interviewed by telephone from Panama by unidentified reporter; date not given; recorded -- monitored in progress]

[Excerpts] [Reporter] ...insurgence and in your opinion, which is the political force among the people in the country?

[Ungo] Regarding the first question, I cannot give you a definitive answer. I believe that new situations have arisen on our part and on that of the Salvadoran Government which, to a certain extent, alter the panorama of 2 or 3 years ago. But in overall terms, I believe that the FDR and the FMLN have maintained and increased their international and pluralistic political support in regard to various countries, continents, and political, social, and religious forces. However, more important than that, I believe, and more important than direct and specific support for the FDR and the FMLN, is the increasing international awareness of, concern over, and interest in a political and negotiated solution by Salvadorans and among Salvadorans. In general, we can say that international political support is basically for a political and negotiated solution and, to a great extent, for the representative and belligerent nature of our fronts, without which, it has been clearly understood, there cannot be a solution or peace in El Salvador.

Regarding your second question about the people's support in my homeland, El Salvador, I believe it is easy to reach mistaken conclusions, especially in light of the great propaganda manipulation of most Salvadoran and U.S. media, particularly the written press in El Salvador, and because we have been living in a situation in which individual guarantees have been suspended for years and basic human rights, such as freedom of speech and freedom of the people to assemble and form organizations, are not in effect and can only be exercised by the right and for the right.

We believe that we are an important political force and that most Salvadorans are tired of the war; but at the same time they feel the fear and the terror of state repression carried out by the security forces and the death squads. They feel the lack of real participation -- to be able to fully express their thoughts. They are experiencing an economic crisis in which the hundreds of millions of dollars sent by the United States serve the privileged few.

Therefore, this is a question with a complex answer which is not too clear for a people who are frightened and terrified in certain sectors, certain levels, and certain places in the country. Were it not for important support by most of our compatriots, the existence and vitality of our fronts and the FMLN's political and military advances would be inexplicable. The military and political destruction of our forces has not been achieved because of this support. But also, if it were not for this support, there could be no explanation of the fact that our various political forces are still alive and active, despite the fact that more than 50,000 Salvadorans were killed, most of them for being suspected guerrillas and members of the opposition. This last question can only be answered when we have a democratic regime that fully guarantees respect for human rights, full exercise of political freedoms, and democratic elections in which all can participate. I believe that this will be the moment of truth, and I feel optimistic that at that moment the vast majority of our Salvadoran people will show that they have been, are, and will be with us.

[Reporter] What is the FMLN-FDR position toward the new Christian Democratic administration?

[Ungo] More pessimistic than optimistic. However, we have not taken a definite stance toward the new government. Its performance will tell us if our stance is right or if we need to adapt it to a new set of circumstances. We have said that our position is more pessimistic because we believe that it is not totally accurate to say that this is a Christian Democratic regime. The Christian Democrats control only one branch -- or organ, as it is called in the Constitution -- of government: the executive. Moreover, this control is only partial because the Armed Forces are part of the executive, and we believe that, although President Duarte is officially the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, the Army High Command wields the greatest amount of power in that branch of government.

The other two branches of government -- the Legislative Assembly and the judicial branch -- are in the hands of right-wing or even extreme right-wing sectors. Therefore, they obstruct the progress of three key processes: democratization, institutional reform, and dialogue, and negotiation.

Our position is flexible and open. We are willing to talk with the government, which represents one of the two political and military sources of power in El Salvador -- I am referring to the Christian Democrats and the right wingers, who although they questioned the results of the past elections have had to accept them, because they themselves made the rules of the game. I have refrained from including the other force represented by the FMLN-FDR.

Our position will be to criticize, demand, and protest political, economic, and social undertakings so as to achieve a 180-degree change of direction and to seek a political solution through negotiations.

[Reporter] Dr Ungo, as we continue with this phone interview, could you please tell our listeners where you are calling from?

[Ungo] I am in Panama.

[Reporter] Thank you. Let us proceed. Dr Ungo, we have spoken about international aid for the Salvadoran regime. What about the FMLN-FDR? Does Socialist International [SI] continue to offer full support to the FMLN-FDR?

[Ungo] Allow me to explain. From the start, when we took part in the first government junta in 1979, the SI offered its support. However, it was not sectarian support. It supported us in the spirit that we would promote democratization and reforms. In that sense, the SI has not been sectarian, as is sometimes the case with the International Christian Democracy. The SI has supported my party -- which is a sister party and member of that organization -- and its political decisions in the belief that Salvadorans and a Salvadoran party should decide what is best for the party and the nation.

Its most important move -- given the international weight and prestige of the SI and its member parties, many of which are in power -- has been its support for an overall political solution that will resolve the problems and causes of the conflict. Its position has been clear and consistent. It supports the French-Mexican declaration, which recognizes that it is impossible to attain a political solution without our front, and thus calls for dialogue and negotiation. It also notes the fundamental issues that those political forces should address.

I was recently in Europe, where I met with several SI leaders, some of whom are heads of state, and with Willy Brandt, the president of that organization. They have all espoused the same position. President Brandt, former Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez, Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, and Dominican leader Jose Francisco Pena Gomez all wrote President Duarte. They told him he had a great historic responsibility and asked him to talk with us. Unfortunately, I have learned that those letters, which are deliberative and serious and open several options to President Duarte, have not been officially answered.

[Reporter] Dr Ungo, President Duarte has repeatedly said that the left-wing opposition -- you and the FDR, which you represent -- have no decisionmaking power whatsoever and that the guerrilla military command makes all the political and military decisions. Is this so?

[Ungo] I think you are voicing an opinion that President Duarte himself would not agree with. If this were so, why would Latin American and European heads of state and foreign ministers meet with us? Nonetheless, I will respond.

The political wing that I represent cannot be confused with the FMLN's political and military sector. We reach understandings to present positions and proposals as a bloc. But, one cannot be confused with the other. In my case, I am not an FMLN commander, therefore I do not head the FMLN. In President Duarte's case -- at least theoretically -- that is the situation. He will have to prove that he actually exercises a dual role. So far, and when he was president before, the opposite was proven. On paper he is commander in chief of the Armed Forces and also political head of the Salvadoran Government. In that sense, he is the political leader of all those who took part in the elections, and we recognize him as a valid representative in a dialogue. In our case, we have tangibly demonstrated how we have advanced in the process of understanding between the FMLN and the FDR. We have taken concrete positions that prove our willingness and political decision to work together. This has been attained through dialogue, exchange of views, and political agreement between the two fronts.

The day that the Salvadoran Government -- President Duarte and the Armed Forces -- accept holding an unconditional dialogue we will demonstrate that we can make progress because we make joint decisions, plans, and actions.

The government is plagued by internal contradictions that cannot be resolved. They live in a devil's cauldron, without any sort of balance. National unity is a delusion and a failure. We believe that political sectors must help resolve this problem.

[Reporter] Dr Ungo, I would like to begin discussing the specific subject of dialogue. This is the currently fashionable term. Duarte has said that before holding any dialogue it is necessary to generate what he describes as minimal security conditions. My question is: Could these minimal security conditions necessitate a period of waiting that no one finds acceptable?

[Ungo] I am very worried by those statements by Duarte, because I think that the answer to your question would be yes. In other words, Du te's statement might be a way of masking his rejection of a dialogue or postponing it. It is as if a house is burning and someone tells you that you must wait for the new director of the firefighters, who is due to arrive next year.

His view has been proven wrong. The last time he was president of the junta he said that this was a historical process of violence that had to be gradually corrected. The number of dead is the only thing that has gradually increased. When he first took office, fewer than 20,000 Salvadorans had been killed, but by the end of his period in office more than 30,000 had been killed. Unless there is a political solution modifying the regime's repressive structure, such a gradual correction is impossible. That is possible only if all the major parties reach agreements and there is a national consensus. The best way to hold a dialogue is to initiate one as soon as possible. There are quite wide discrepancies, and only through dialogue can we gradually reach agreements and move closer to points of concurrence.

To say that minimal security conditions must first be created for the people is to expect to have a political solution without a negotiation, a political solution without a dialogue, a political solution excluding the parties with the capacity to resolve a conflict that involves those very parties.

[Reporter] The FMLN-FDR announced about 1, 2, (?or 3) months ago, I am not sure, in San Jose, Costa Rica -- or at least that is where we gained access to it -- a document establishing certain conditions or preconditions dealing with political control, military control, education; in short, with various aspects of the Salvadoran reality. Since the FMLN-FDR leaders have said that they want a dialogue without preconditions, isn't this contradictory? (?Would you explain this?"

[Ungo] No, this is not a contradiction. Please allow me to explain. I want the Salvadoran people to become familiar with our position, which is not often publicized because of the suspension of individual guarantees [words indistinct] the lack of complete freedom of expression.

When we presented our proposals in February of this year, we were trying to advance our position by giving more and better guidelines on how we viewed the process of negotiation -- what kind of negotiation, what kind of government, what kind of program would be included in the proposals that were to be discussed in a process of negotiation. In other words, we wanted to put our cards on the table. We did not define things further because we felt that if a negotiation was to be held these things should be the end result. That is, other opinions, sectors, and political, economical, and social forces might have to be taken into consideration.

We did not want to present a complete plan, only guidelines that would give an idea of where we are coming from and what we are thinking so there is no manipulation and no one can say anything that is alien to our opinions, our positions, and our reality. Now, that is the position presented in our proposals, so the people would become familiar with our views. This does not change our stand that we want a dialogue without any preconditions, because the best way not to hold a dialogue is to set preconditions, knowing full well that the other party will not accept them. In other words, in order to accept any conditions, a negotiation would be necessary. But if there is not even initial dialogue, it is unlikely that there could be a negotiation. That entails an inherent contradiction.

Our position on dialogue is that we should sit down at the negotiating table as soon as possible in order to hold a dialogue on an agenda, its contents, and the necessary procedures to gradually discover and reach points of concurrence through the discussion and negotiation of specific aspects.

[Reporter] Could you tell us briefly what would be discussed in the case of some hypothetical dialogue; what solutions would be proposed?

[Ungo] There are two ways of focusing on this: There is the essential and fundamental problem of war and peace; that is, how to achieve an ideal political solution and how to deliberately but quickly move closer to specific points of agreement which would in turn move us closer to the possibility of discussing the most pressing problems. So for us there are two perspectives to this dialogue: One is how to gradually humanize the war, since this is an active present reality: how we can abide by and implement the Geneva Convention with regard to prisoners, troops, and refugees; in short, all the aspects included in the Geneva Convention and its protocols. Another aspect deals with the country's true democratization; not a democracy of the minorities, which makes no sense; not a democracy of and exclusively for the right wing; not an exclusive and excluding democracy; not a repressive democracy, which is the democracy with which we are familiar [words indistinct] that has led us to our present situation.

We see the problem of power as the central part of the final solution. As I have already said, the current power is both repressive and exclusive. It is a power that does not include all Salvadorans.

I would like to recall some historical facts that you can find in the banner headlines of the newspapers of early January 1980. When we withdrew from the first junta with the Christian Democrats, we did so precisely because we felt the Armed Forces program's two major aspects had been betrayed, and they are at the root of the conflict: the lack of democracy and the lack of change; in other words, democratization and social change. But then the Christian Democrats went back, and their historical justification for doing so -- set forth in the pages of Salvadoran newspapers at the time -- was that both they and the Salvadoran Army wanted a dialogue that would permit participation in power of all the democratic and revolutionary organizations.

I think it would be a good idea to reread the newspapers of those first days of January 1980 in order to find the justification for our proposals. This is fundamental. This is why we talk about a government of broad participation, a provisional government permitting an election truly devoid of fear, with full access to the media, where not only the leaders and their followers but the entire Salvadoran people can feel they can participate, carry out political propaganda, put up posters, or paint slogans without the danger of being killed after being labeled a suspect or a subversive.

We understand that this point cannot be discussed in a single session, it necessitates a number of complementary aspects and political agreements which would move us closer to the treatment and solution of these issues.

[Reporter] What is the FMLN-FDR's position on a reality here with which we are familiar: In this country there is a large, professional, and institutional armed force. As far as we know under no circumstances will the Armed Forces accept coexistence with rebel or insurgent forces. What is the FMLN-FDR's position on this issue?

[Ungo] I could not state a final position at this point. This would be premature. I would say initially that there is a need to restructure, reorganize, and purge [depurar] the Armed Forces as an institution. We in the FMLN-FDR acknowledge the need for the Armed Forces' institutional survival. The opposite would be absurd. Personally, I think that if a dialogue were initiated there would be sufficient ground for reaching points of agreement on how to restructure, reorganize, and purge the Armed Forces. This is no easy task, because the strong and repressive structure is felt within the Armed Forces themselves, so those who might have positive ideas do not dare, under the current circumstances, do anything, and least of all tell others about their ideas.

Mainly the Armed Forces must cease to be an enemy of their own people and of the various political expressions of their people. They must show respect and endorse the free, democratic political game. They must not be an Army at the service of a minority, but rather at the service of a majority. This has been admitted in the past by officers of various rank. In other words, they have felt that for a long time the Army has, in fact, functioned as an enemy of the people, as a repressor of important sectors of the people, usually the most oppressed ones, the poorest ones. The Army has been identified as the guardian of the oligarchy. It might be that at this point this phenomenon is undergoing a positive evolution. There seems to be a certain estrangement between important Army sectors and all the expressions of the ultraright.

In the past there has been the opposite of a purge: Many democratic and honest officers have been removed for various reasons. Several of those who were members of the junta of the government in 1979 are no longer in the government, and several of them are even regarded as adversaries or are no longer members of the Army's command structures. They are regarded as adversaries and even enemies. This is a point that can be resolved only through negotiation.

How will the Salvadoran Army be restructured? That would depend on the political wills expressed, on the existing needs. Either the Salvadoran Army chooses to become an absolute puppet of the United States -- something which would become even more real and feasible in the event of an invasion by U.S. troops -- if we were to become another Grenada, or, faced with such a possibility, the Salvadoran Army will choose to reach some sort of understanding involving negotiations, concessions, and sacrifices which in the end will help preserve its institutionality and appropriate development.

Moreover, I think that both the current Army chiefs and we ourselves agree that the size of the Army is totally disproportionate to our country's needs for national development. So, one of the points that we might discuss is how the Army can regain not only its true and real nature and identity, but also how it can attain the proper strength, in accordance with our ability to finance it without increasingly depending on a foreign power. These are the elements that, through mutual concessions, could show us the best way to restructure, reorganize, and purge the Armed Forces.

[Reporter] What does the FMLN-FDR think about the U.S. presence, as some term it, or U.S. intervention, as others label it, here in El Salvador?

[Ungo] I don't think anyone disputes the fact that the U.S. Government is present in El Salvador. And what a government, that of President Reagan, who is not even a good Republican!

An American recently wrote, as did former Colombian Foreign Minister Vasquez Carrizosa, a member of the Conservative Party, that we have (?in fact) become a protectorate. This is regrettable. This is a loss of our national identity. Our national political decisions are subordinate to the political interests of the United States, the Reagan administration, and President Reagan and his electoral interests. This does not mean that certain decisions made do not take the national interests into consideration, but these are subordinate.

This is the national challenge. This, above and beyond the things that divide us, is an issue involving patriotism and should bring us together, deliberately but quickly freeing us from dependence.

Even before the armed conflict broke out our structural dependence on the United States was very marked, and now that situation has worsened in political, military, economic, and social terms. We feel that better and deeper relations should be developed with other countries so as to avoid bipolarization, that is, a division of the world and its zones of influence between the superpowers.

We cannot ignore the fact that the United States is our big neighbor. Not only is national dialogue important, but so is a dialogue with the U.S. Government in search of realistic terms for mutual adjustment so the United States is made to respect the principles of free self-determination and nonintervention and so that we may achieve relations marked by cooperation.

It would be really (?suicidal) if we were to prepare a national program that opposed or confronted the United States. In this regard, we have two important issues of common interest: The United States must be given guarantees that our small country will not become a threat to that superpower; that other countries or foreign powers will not establish military bases here; that El Salvador follow a nonaligned policy and will not sign military pacts or treaties with other powers. Our legitimate right -- because this is not to be a unilateral commitment -- is to have the United States promise to respect the principles of nonintervention and free determination.

We are interested in cooperation because international reality shows us that even the industrialized countries need the cooperation of the United States, which is now harming the entire Third World, as well as its major allies in Europe and Japan, with its economic policy.

We think it is necessary that the United States understands that we are not its private property, as they regard us when they call us their backyard.

[Reporter] What is your view on the possibility that Mr Reagan might be reelected as President of the United States. Would this have any effect on the problems of El Salvador?

[Ungo] Yes. The U.S. election in early November is definitely very important. Everything seems to indicate that President Reagan has a better chance of winning. It would be regrettable if Reagan were indeed reelected. I think that, either publicly or privately, this is the view expressed by the great majority of governments all over the world, including U.S. allies or those governments close to it. Naturally, there are different ways of expressing this, depending on the relations maintained with the United States.

Reagan is becoming a threat, a destabilizing factor. He has gone back to the cold war instead of advancing the policy of detente. With his economic policy, he is also a factor of economic destabilization, especially for Third World countries.

I think that, despite the power of a superpower like the United States and even with all the simplistic and political primitivism displayed by President Reagan, he does not possess the solution to the Salvadoran problem. We may be a protectorate, but we are not a colony, and even colonies have their great moments of independence. They cannot be under remote control every day, all day, every year, all year. This leaves room for the national political and military forces to express themselves, whether President Reagan likes it or not.

[Reporter] Could you explain what kind of social, political, and economic system the FMLN-FDR seeks to establish? Will our Catholic faith be respected?

[Ungo] We are an alliance within which different political, social, and even military forces are supported. Each group has its own positions, dreams, and history. This is a fact that we recognize and respect. This is not a communist, socialist, social democratic, Christian democratic, or social Christian political program. It is less than that but also more important.

This is a national political program suited to the current political moment, its immediate future, the current needs of the Salvadoran people, and the domestic and international resources that the people and the various political forces possess to advance it.

The fundamental element is that the FMLN-FDR platform is nationalistic, independent, and anti-imperialistic. We favor relations with all world powers and governments, seeking El Salvador's autonomous and independent development. We are anti-oligarchic because that is an outdated pattern of leadership that has been in need of a change for decades. The fact that such a change has not taken place on the economic, social, and political levels has given rise to the current confrontation.

Developments are our teachers and mentors. They point out our mistakes and achievements, new options, needs, limitations and hopes. We have different ideological and political positions. However, they are all interdependent. A single position cannot attain democratic and revolutionary triumph in El Salvador or develop a revolutionary democratic program on its own.

It is a fact that there is pluralism in El Salvador, and this tells us that political pluralism can be developed successfully, despite the tremendous amount of repression and exclusion that the Salvadoran regimes have practiced for decades. Fortunately, Salvadoran political and social organization has developed on pluralistic lines. We believe that much of this conflict originates in mass violations of human rights, including the persecution of the church. It has not been persecution of the institution itself but against individuals within the church. Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero comes to mind. We profess absolute respect for freedom of religion. This is not only a principle but a reality, which is a political necessity, because the overwhelming majority of Salvadorans are Catholic or Christian. They have suffered and do suffer from poverty, repression, and oppression. The church has had limited opportunities to carry out its mission, which is concerned not only with heavenly but also earthly things. Earth can be made an anticipation of heaven. I believe that the Salvadoran people, as well as ourselves, are interested in seeing that our programs are carried out.

FMLN ALERTS UNITS TO FOREIGN TROOPS NEAR BORDER

PA25046 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos to El Salvador 0000 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] On Monday, U.S. and Honduran troops began joint maneuvers in northern Morazan Department, basically in the Honduran Department of La Paz. A Honduran battalion and a battalion of U.S. Green Beret paratroopers are participating in these maneuvers.

The maneuvers include an airborne attack. Immediately afterward, the Honduran battalion and the gringo paratroopers will be transferred to (Marsala), located a few kilometers from the Salvadoran border. Therefore, battalions from the U.S. and Honduran Armies will be near our border. With that in mind, we have instructed all of our forces and logistical structures, the Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade and militia to be on alert and ready for full combat.

FARABUNDO MARTI: U.S. SHIP VIOLATING SOVEREIGNTY

PA260233 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Excerpts] Attention, your attention. We wish to report the presence of a U.S. vessel that is violating our country's sovereignty. Since 5 days ago, a U.S. ship has been off of El Salvador's coasts, between Usulutan and San Miguel Departments, near El Espino. This ship is accompanied by two coast guard vessels and by four Piranha-type launches that carry out surveillance work. These launches have been attacking the area's poor residents by launching mortar shells in the direction of their villages.

Attention, your attention, Salvadoran people. We now repeat this report about the violation of Salvadoran sovereignty represented by the presence of a U.S. ship. Attention, a U.S. vessel has been violating our country's national sovereignty for 5 days. The ship is off the Salvadoran coasts, between Usulutan and San Miguel Departments. The vessel is accompanied by two coast guard vessels and four Piranha-type launches that are engaged in surveillance activities. These launches have been attacking the area's poor residents by constantly launching mortar shells in the direction of their villages.

Helicopters that are involved in aggressive actions are constantly taking off from this ship. We demand the immediate withdrawal of this aggressor vessel, which has been trampling upon our country's national sovereignty and violating all principles of international law, in opposition to our people's legitimate right of self-determination. Stop this violation of our homeland's sovereignty.

FARABUNDO MARTI CLAIMS ARMY ATTACKING CIVILIANS

39 'Massacred' in Cabanas

PA251938 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish 0100 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] Attention Salvadoran people. Attention world human rights associations. Attention local and foreign press. The criminals of the elite, U.S.-trained Atlacatl Battalion have massacred 39 villagers in Cabanas Department. Attention . On 19 and 21 July, troops of the criminal Atlacatl Battalion, led by Reagan's paid assassin (Jose Armando Agnicia Melara), massacred 39 villagers in [place names indistinct] cantons, located in Cabanas Department. While Durate was traveling through Europe boasting about his democracy, the elite Atlacatl Battalion was killing 39 villagers of [place names indistinct], in Cabanas Department. On 19 July, Atlacatl Battalion troops entered the area of Jutiapa, in Cabanas Department, and attempted to engage in combat with our front line forces. In addition to the Army operation in Jutiapa, the Atlacatl Battalion troops surrounded 13 persons, mostly women, children, and old people and murdered them in cold blood. They captured 25 other villagers whose whereabouts are unknown. On 21 July, 2 days later, the Atlacatl Battalion [words indistinct] a large group of peasants, savagely massacring 26 other persons near Cinquera, in Cabanas Department.

San Miguel Villages Shelled

PA260026 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Excerpt] On 16 July, forces belonging to the Leon Battalion and the 3d Infantry Brigade entered the Cantons of Valle Las Tunas, Jocote Dulce, and San Antonio, in the Chinameca jurisdiction of San Miguel Department. The dictatorship's troops lobbed a number of mortar shells into these cantons. As a result of this intense shelling, nine people were either killed or wounded, and several peasants' homes were destroyed. We repeat, the dictatorship' troops lobbed a number of mortar shells into the Cantons of Valle las Tunas, Jocote Dulce, and San Antonio, in the jurisdiction of Chinameca. Most of the nine victims, both dead and wounded, are children and elderly people. This, along with the destruction of several of the village residents' homes, is the result of the dictatorship's shelling.

VENCEREMOS CRITICIZES VIDES CASANOVA'S SPEECH

PA251939 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Excerpts] Over the weekend, our people heard on the radio and through the different media, the speech made by General Vides Casanova. The defense minister's speech reflected the deep crisis that the dictatorship's Army is facing. If Gen Vides Casanova did not end his speech crying, it we because he only had 9 minutes to deliver his message. By the tone and content of his speech, had he spoken for 3 minutes more, he surely would have wept over the bitter moments that have resulted from his Army's crisis.

Gen Vides Casanova made an anguished call for total mobilization in order to confront the war. To present the aftertaste of tragedy, Casanova tried to embellish his message with the argument that the Army is on the final leg of the journey leading to the defeat of the revolutionary forces, and that this achievement -- the FMLN's defeat -- is only a matter of time. What is Vides' basis for making such a statement? No one knows. During his appearance on the radio stations and other media. the defense minister did not give any proof or argument, nor any serious explanation that could convince anyone of the trughfulness of his audacious statements. His message was purely rhetorical.

With words, with only words, no one will be convinced and, moreover, a war cannot be won with words. The problem for Vides Casanova is that facts themselves deny what he affirms. Where are the Army's victories over the FMLN forces? Where are they? So far no one has seen them. If the dictatorship Army were on the verge of winning the war as Vides Casanova asserts, then he would not have to make such calls for the total mobilization of the Salvadorans.

In our fatherland, El Salvador, a war is taking place between two factions -- between two classes. On the one hand, the Army is defending the oligarchic millionaires, the great landowners, and the U.S. economic and political interests. On the other hand, the FMLN is interpreting the strategic interests of the workers, peasants, and all the Salvadoran people who have been exploited and repressed for years. This is a war between the interests of the millionaires and the interests of the poor and the working class.

Therefore, let each class in conflict mobilize to defend its interests. Vides Casanova calls for general mobilization for war. Therefore, we want to see the landowner's pampered children, the children of the oligarchic millionaires, on the war fronts.

Gen Vides Casanova announced that the country's entire economy should be guided by the war, and energy and other services should be rationed. The people, then, want to see people from wealthy neighborhoods such as La Escalon, San Benito, San Francisco, and other millionaire's neighborhoods making the first sacrifices. The people want them to forego all of their luxuries and squandering while the people die of hunger. Vides Casanova's cynicism and hypocrisy have reached an apex. In his call to the people he asks the workers to give a day of their salaries to support the puppet Army, while the workers who are asking for wage increases because of the oppressive situation that they are facing, are given nothing. This is Vides' response to the working people's demands. Why does he not ask the big businessmen to give a year of their earnings? Or why does Casanova not ask the big businessmen to sacrifice themselves and increase the wages of all the workers?

No, General Vides Casanova. Your rhetorical messages no longer deceive anyone nor do they hide the bitter reality. The Army's situation is increasingly critical and difficult. Behind Vides Casanova's calls are simply greater burdens and economic demands for the people and the workers. However, the response to your message, Mr Vides Casanova, is -- you can be sure -- the people's indignation over your cynicism. The response from our people, Mr Vides Casanova, will be to deepen the revolutionary war!

GUATEMALA

PDC URGES GOVERNMENT TO FIND KIDNAPPED MEMBER

PA260054 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 25 Jul 84 p 8

[Text] Guatemala City, 24 Jul -- The national leadership of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] expressed concern today over an increase in criminal activities in the country, primarily over a new wave of kidnappings that has claimed a new victim: a Christian Democratic leader in El Quiche Department.

"The PDC demands that the new authorities take immediate action to discover the whereabouts of Domingo Vasquez Aceituno, the head of our Rio Blanco office in Sacapulas, El Quiche Department," a communique issued yesterday stated. "We ask that our party member's whereabouts be determined as soon as possible. This wave of crimes and kidnappings has affected democratic leaders who uphold the interests of the Guatemalan people," the communique added. "The government has the means and personnel to secure peace and security for the country. We demand that it begin to look into this matter efficiently and with the clear intention of investigating and arraigning those who are responsible for these crimes, because the Guatemalans have already endured too many abuses of power," the PDC statement concluded.

ARMY TROOPS, 'SUBVERSIVES' CLASH IN TOTONICAPAN

PA250412 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 24 Jul 84

[Text] [Words indistinct] No 17 yesterday at 1200 intercepted a group of subversives near (Cancijafa), San Bartolo Municipality, Totonicapan Department, and armed fighting ensued, according to Army reports released today. As a result of this operation, a subversive was killed and two handguns, one .45-caliber pistol, one .38-caliber revolver, and two Soviet-made fragmentation grenades were seized. The other subversives fled. The Army said that this group is not linked to the Revolutionary Organization of the People in Arms, but to a remnant group of the Poor People's Guerrilla Army that is not under the control of any clandestine organization.

HONDURAS

INFORMATION OFFICE REFUTES CRITICISM OF U.S. ENVOY

PA251904 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] On this date, the International Information Office of the Honduran Government has written THE NEW YORK TIMES to refute an article that seeks to distort the role of Ambassador John Dimitri Negroponte in our country. The text of the letter is as follows:

Mr Seymour Topping, managing editor of THE NEW YORK TIMES, New York,

Mr Managing Editor: I direct your attention to the article by Lydia Chavez published in the Sunday, 22 July, issue of THE NEW YORK TIMES. For the sake of the truth I wish to state:

1. It is absolutely false that John Dimitri Negroponte has been attacked by Honduran officials who are unhappy about charges that they have been Washington's lackeys. At no time have officials of the administration or members of our Armed Forces censured Mr Negroponte nor have they felt that his presence in the country causes friction. On the contrary, Ambassador Negroponte has defended Honduras' image abroad and has acted with diligence to obtain economic and security support for the strengthening of our young democratic institutions.

2. The newswoman is also inaccurate when she alleges that Honduras has become the base for thousands of CIA-backed Nicaraguan rebels. The Nicaraguan insurgents fight in Nicaraguan territory. Some of them may have occasionally entered Honduras, as occasionally happened with the Sandinist rebels when they entered our territory during their struggle against Somoza and in the same way that thousands of illegal immigrants enter the United States daily without the most modern police resources of that major power being able to prevent it.

3. Without citing a qualified source and without identifying any of the civilians or military men she allegedly interviewed, the reporter states that the resentment against the ambassador has been increasing. It is easy to state that military officers or civilians who asked to remain anonymous, stated this or that. The truly professional task in journalism is to obtain real statements from specific, real, identifiable, and serious individuals.

4. Proof of what we are saying is seen in the alleged remarks attributed to Colonel Omar Zelaya, director of the Command and General Staff School and a member of the Armed Forces Supreme Council. According to Chavez' article, Col Zelaya told her that General Walter Lopez, the new commander of the Armed Forces, was avoiding Mr Negroponte and asking for changes in the policy that the embassy supposedly promoted in cooperation with General Gustavo Alvarez, former commander of the Armed Forces. Before writing this letter, I personally contacted Col Zelaya and he told me that he has never made such a statement and he expressed surprise that a newspaper of such seriousness and prestige as THE NEW YORK TIMES attributed remarks to him that he never made. I could list other inaccuracies in the article but so as not to make this letter too long I will end it by respectfully but firmly asking that your newspaper instruct its correspondents not to yield to the temptation of using rumors and prejudice as a source for their journalistic work.

Honduras is a small and poor country but it has a legitimate government elected by the people in honest elections. It is also a nation that struggles for development, peace, and social justice in a geographic area where violence, destruction, and war prevail. To reply to those challenges, our government supports the Contadora's Group's peace initiative and works for economic cooperation in the international community. Articles filled with prejudice and misinformation hurt those efforts and in the long run cause irreparable harm to people who share the democratic ideals of Washington, Jefferson, and Kennedy. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely, Amilcar Santamaria, Ambassador-Director of the International Information Office of the Honduran Government.

PAZ BARNICA TO VISIT JAPAN, TAIWAN, SOUTH KOREA

PA251729 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Foreign Secretariat Press and Information Directorate communique issued in Tegucigalpa 24 July]

[Text] Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica will visit Japan, [the Republic of] Korea, and [the Republic of] China in the next few days at the official invitation of the governments of those countries. The invitations have been accepted as part of the commitment of the government of President Roberto Suazo Cordova to strengthen Honduras' bilateral ties with those countries. During his visit to those countries, the Honduran foreign secretary will discuss cooperation for development through diverse projects in various fields that will benefit Honduras.

For this purpose, the Honduran Foreign Secretariat, through its agencies and various Honduran Government secretariats, has prepared briefing papers for proposals that will be made within the framework of cooperation in economic, technical, cultural, and other fields.

The foreign secretary will discuss the support that Honduras needs from the IMF, the increase in the coffee export quota, loans in support of our balance of payments, lines of credit for the purchase of manufactured goods in the countries he will visit, and cooperation in various development projects, especially in the areas of health, education, electricity, and agrarian reform. He will also try to promote investments by private investors in Honduras, stressing the advantages of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Law. He will be making specific proposals in this regard.

The democratic Honduran Government's foreign policy within Central America and the world as a whole will be explained to representatives of the government, academic, diplomatic, and business sectors of the countries he will visit.

His excellency (Goro Nakasone), Japanese ambassador to Honduras, has been especially interested in the preparation and coordination of the foreign secretary's visit to Japan. The diplomatic missions of Korea and China accredited in Honduras have also made the appropriate preparations.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR REFUGEE RELOCATION SUSPENDED

PA252312 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 24 Jul 84 p 2

[Excerpt] Arrangements to relocate the Salvadoran and Guatemalan refugees to the country's interior have been suspended, because the government and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) have not agreed on the document to regulate this process.

This information was supplied by Colonel Abraham Garcia Turcios, the coordinator of the national committee of refugees, who expressed hope that the relocation will be carried out in October.

The Hunduran official said that the problem in arriving at an agreement is that the UNHCR wishes to include clauses in the document that the government deems "harmful to the sovereignty" of the nation and that are, therefore, "unacceptable."

Garcia Turcios refused to reveal the points of dispute between the government and the international organization, although he expressed confidence that this situation will be settled in the next few days.

NICARAGUA

AMBASSADOR TO USSR DISCUSSES ARMS SUPPLIES

PM251147 Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 18 Jul 84 p 6

[Pilar Bonet dispatch: "Nicaragua Accepts Arms From All Countries Willing To Sell Them, Its Ambassador in Moscow States"]

[Text] Moscow -- "Nicaragua receives arms for its defense from all countries willing to give them to it, and will seek the interceptor aircract which it needs, whether they be Soviet MiG's or French Mirages, when it has the capability to operate them." This was stated in an interview with EL PAIS by 37-year-old Nicaraguan Ambassador in Moscow Jacinto Suarez Espinosa, a member of the Sandinist Assembly and one of the historical founders of the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN), which he joined in 1963.

"We are told not to arm ourselves, but no one assures us that we will not be attacked," stated Jacinto Suarez, who was imprisoned for over 7 years in the days of the Somoza regime, sharing his fate with current Nicaraguan junta Coordinator Daniel Ortega. Suarez, who has represented his country in the USSR since 1981, was arrested in 1967 in connection with the attack on a dairy called La Perfecta, in which one of his comrades was killed.

He was released, together with Daniel Ortega and other Sandinist leaders, and taken to Cuba in 1974, within the framework of the 27 December action in which hostages seized at a cocktail party in honor of the U.S. ambassador in Managua were exchanged for a group of political prisoners.

"We uphold the sovereign right to defend ourselves. Only the United States has denied us this right. It is said that we could be a threat, but in fact we have never attacked any one."

At the end of June, Suarez accompanied Daniel Ortega, who was conducting a tour of the area, through several socialist countries winding up in Moscow. According to every indication, the visit's aim was to induce the USSR to maintain and even increase its arms supplies. The tone of the communiques issued at the time suggested that this principal aim was not achieved. However, the Nicaraguan ambassador denied that Ortega went to Moscow to secure further military assistance. "But he did not even talk with military personnel! In fact the aim of the visit was economic."

Jacinto Suarez acknowledged that his country receives arms manufactured in various countries, including the USSR, but preferred not to go into details about the matter. "Obviously, we could not sustain the war which we have with our own resources. We have donations from European countries, and we receive military assistance from the USSR and other socialist states, as well as from Arab states."

A U.S. source maintained that Cuba is holding 12 Soviet MIG's intended for Nicaragua. Suarez referred to the official Cuban statement, which described this as a distortion. "The fact is that the United States has said that it would regard as unacceptable the presence of MIG aircraft in Nicaragua." "When we have the operational capability," he continued, "the capability to receive the interceptor aircraft which we need for our defense, whether they be MIG's or Mirages, we will receive them. It does not matter from whence they come."

Despite believing that the United States "wishes to destroy us," Suarez was slightly more optimistic about the situation in Central America, comparing it with the situation existing a year ago, and especially with the time of the U.S. invasion of the island of Grenada, "when some people believed that that was the formula." The U.S. elections and "the increased awareness in the United States of the dangers of an intervention in Nicaragua" could have influenced the change somewhat.

"People no longer think in terms of intervening in Nicaragua but of intervening in Central America. The war would not be local but widespread, and it would be a Vietnam right there on the U.S. border. The talks in Manzanillo (Mexico) between the United States and Nicaragua are a result of the current situation." "George Shultz' visit to Managua is something that we accepted in accordance with the principles of dialogue and the search for solutions. But how can the U.S. attitude be assessed? They come, they talk, they wish to negotiate, but they continue to finance the counterrevolution."

Nonalignment

Despite the pressures to polarize it, Nicaragua wishes, according to its representative in the USSR, "to continue to maintain its policy of nonalignment. An alignment with the USSR would represent a justification of the aggressive policy against us. A surrender to the United States would work to the advantage of Reagan's policy. We maintain the principles of a mixed economy, elections, and civil freedoms which did not exist in the days of the dictatorship. The only thing that could prevent the 4 November elections would be a military aggression."

According to Suarez, the Nicaraguan Catholic Church hierarchy is acting like a political party. "The Nicaraguan priests have the right to think politically about what is happening in the country and to continue to take part in politics," but the 10 expelled priests are "the simple case of 10 politically involved foreigners who have been denied the right to reside."

Suarez assesses positively his country's youthful relations with the USSR, which have given Managua considerable economic assistance. The donations include oil and grain -- 12,000 metric tons in 1984 -- in addition to $200 million in commercial credit on very good financial terms, with which agricultural machinery has been purchased." [quotation marks as published]

Soviet intellectual circles connected with the system [central apparatus] recently expressed to this correspondent the opinion that if the United States were to invade Cuba, the USSR would intervene and there would be a world war. The sources were of the opinion that the same thing would not happen if Nicaragua were in the same situation.

Commenting on this opinion, the Nicaraguan ambassador in Moscow stated that "it is we who would have to face up to a U.S. intervention. Maybe we must sacrifice ourselves as a people and pay a fee in blood. We would be prepared to do so. We count on our forces."

FSLN, POLITICAL PARTIES CONTINUE MEETINGS

FSLN Proposes Joint Document

PA260142 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0039 GMT 26 Jul 84

[Text] The FSLN proposed today that the other legally recognized political parties join it in signing a joint document demanding that the Reagan administration end its financial and military aid for the counterrevolutionaries, an action that would permit the lifting of the state of emergency completely.

The second round of talks being held by the FSLN, to which it invited the political parties, included the members of the rightist Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board [CDN] for the first time. The first round of talks was held last Wednesday and included representatives of the Nicaraguan Socialist Party, the Communist Party of Nicaragua, the Independent Liberal Party [PLI], the Popular Social Christian Party [PPSC], the Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua, and the Marxist-Leninist Popular Action Movement.

The Social Christian Party [PSC], the Constitutionalist Liberal Party, and the Social Democratic Party [PSD] of the CDN made no comment about the FSLN proposal. The other parties welcomed this initiative.

The FSLN position is both flexible and broad, PPSC presidential candidate Mauricio Diaz said. He added that his organization is willing to sign a joint document with the other parties to demand that Reagan put an end to the war of aggression against Nicaragua.

Meanwhile, Socialist leader Gustavo Tablada said that the FSLN proposal is positive and urged all of the country's political forces to speak out in support of Nicaragua's interests.

PLI leader Eduardo Coronado said that any proposal seeking peace for Nicaragua is welcome, but he did not confirm that his party would sign this document. The PLI, which left the Patriotic Front of the Revolution in February because of ideological differences with the FSLN, has agreed with some of the demands made by the CDN before agreeing to register its candidates.

Among other factors, the rightist coalition is demanding that the government lift the state of emergency completely, that a general amnesty be enacted, that state and party be separated, and that a national dialogue be initiated that would include the counterrevolutionaries.

In discussing the FSLN's proposal, PSC leader Gilmore Coe and PSD leader Eric Ramirez merely declared that it will be assessed this afternoon and that they will respond later.

The opposition bloc demanded of Commander Bayardo Arce that the registration period for candidates for president, vice president, and 90 National Assembly representatives be extended until 4 August. The deadline for this registration expires today.

Arce said that although this measure would upset the electoral process, he will discuss the matter with the Supreme Electoral Council to see if it could be approved.

Arce Press Conference

PA260415 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0142 GMT 26 Jul 84

[Commander of the Revolution Bayardo Arce Castano's press conference at the Center of International Information in Managua -- live]

[Excerpts] [Arce] First, I want to thank you all for coming here. The FSLN believes it is necessary to inform our people and the peoples of the world who are interested in the efforts of the Nicaraguan revolution to democratize and to institutionalize the revolutionary process about a meeting that we held today with all political parties that met the legal requirements to choose to participate in the electoral process. Our meeting lasted from 1030 to 1400, and was attended by the 10 parties that had already met the legal requirements at the National Council of Political Parties to choose to participate in the elections.

In today's meeting we learned about a joint proposal presented by the Independent Liberal Party, the Communist Party of Nicaragua, and the Nicaraguan Socialist Party in which the companeros that represented these three organizations proposed that the lifting of additional aspects of the state of emergency be considered. They also said that they agreed with the need to exercise control over any reports on military matters, and suggested certain changes within the electoral law that would permit more time for registration, and ways to finance the candidates, who will have to use the time they devote to their jobs to campaign, etc. We also heard a statement from the three parties that comprise the Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board reiterating their position that the nine demands they made in December 1983 should be met. In addition, we heard proposals from the Popular Social Christian Party, the Democratic Conservative Party, and the Marxist-Leninist Popular Action Movement.

After all of the proposals were heard and a consensus was reached on the need to hold a new round of talks, so that all of the political parties could have the opportunity to study the six proposals that were made, the FSLN declared the following: First, we agreed with all of the parties that it would be a good idea to hold not just one more round of talks, but as many as are necessary. Second, we expressed our willingness to lift the state of emergency totally if all of the parties sign a declaration addressed to the U.S. Government and Congress expressing our willingness and desire to hold our elections within a framework of liberty, telling them that we, Nicaraguans acting alone, want to solve our problems without foreign interference, and demanding an end to the aggression and a withdrawal of the counterrevolutionary forces to their sanctuaries abroad, from where they were sent to our country.

Referring to basic aspects -- those deriving from the fact that the situation of aggression will not necessarily be ended, because we do not trust that the U.S. Government will agree to what the Nicaraguan political parties feel -- we made another proposal intended to resolve some of the concerns of the parties that attended the meeting. One of these special concerns was the parties' fear that, in view of the fact that our country has been under restrictions because of the aggression, laws might not be understood, because of the new liberties that have been included, and that this might affect the electoral process.

We proposed that all of the political parties that were present call upon or instruct their rank and file and sympathizers to conduct the electoral campaign in strict compliance with the law and with a civic and mature spirit, devoid of any confrontation or any sort of violence among the contending parties. This call would also mean that the public forces and state institutions would be asked to abide by the law and to demonstrate the strictest possible neutrality toward the electoral process.

Another proposal involved the possibility of postponing the deadline for the registration of alliances. As you all know, the deadline by which parties must register their candidates will expire at midnight tonight. However, these parties can reorganize themselves and register anew, as alliances. We were told that some parties are currently discussing the creation of such alliances.

In view of this, we voiced the following opinion: At the State Council, we approved the date of 4 August because, according to experts in the country's printing industry, that was the necessary deadline for printing all of the ballots, which require several printing stages because of all of the colors involved in party flags and emblems. However, we said that if the printing industry (?experts) indicated that we could have more time, then the FSLN was willing to sign, jointly with all of the political parties that were present, a formal and official request of the Supreme Electoral Council for an extension of the registration period. As an immediate response to this proposal, we agreed that at tomorrow's meeting of the National Council of Political Parties the FSLN will propose that it meet with the Supreme Electoral Council and pay a joint visit to the printing industry, to determine the period of time needed, and, based on that, to (?accept) the request for an extension to the date for the registration of alliances.

Naturally, all of the parties at the meeting voiced their opinions on all of the proposals. We all voiced our opinions on the freedom of the press, lifting of the state of emergency, dialogue, and all of the other topics that are being discussed in this electoral process. But we all agreed that a thorough discussion of all of the proposals will be held at the next meeting, which was set for Friday, 27 July, at 1500. Therefore, we feel that the result of these talks today was positive. All who attended it said as much. They all said that the meeting was held within a framework of frankness and broadmindedness, generating greater confidence not only between the FSLN and the opposition but among the opposition themselves, because they feel that they are too divided. They said that they were all pleased with the new measures on freedom of the press. They also said that the decision to continue the discussions was positive, because we expressed the willingness to consider other proposals that had been made.

[Question] I am [name indistinct] from THE NEW YORK TIMES. I would like to ask the following: Is it true that in today's meeting, the opposition candidates asked for an extension in the deadline for registration of candidates and that this proposal was rejected?

[Arce] Well, what the parties of the Coordinating Board [CDN] proposed is that we agree to extend the deadline for the registration of party candidates, which expires today. We said that we did not -- as, in truth, we did not and do not -- have the power to do so. We said that what we could do -- and please bear in mind that the meeting ended at 1400 -- that what the parties could do is ask for an extension of the period for registration of alliances, which will expire on 4 August. We explained to them that since they had already made their choices in conventions, and had publicly announced their candidates as individual parties, they could go through the procedure of registering as parties and then as alliances later on. We also explained that they could even decide later not to participate in the elections and to withdraw.

As for the possibility that Mr Cruz can be a candidate after all, he still has the opportunity. He has it until 4 August, for the time being. What does this mean? It means that he, or the parties that support him, can take shelter under one of the registered parties; that is, they can ally themselves with one of the registered parties and register an alliance within the period established by law.

[Question] Can you clarify something I did not understand very well? If Dr Cruz does not register today, or does not join one of the registered parties, can he no longer be a presidential candidate in Nicaragua?

[Arce] Well, he can register until 2400 today. If he does not register today, he could even register under an alliance until 4 August, when the deadline to register alliances will expire. After that, he cannot continue to act as candidate of a group that has given up the right to participate in the electoral process, with all of the prerogatives that the law grants.

[Question] I am [name indistinct] of Radio Sandino. Dr Cruz said over an hour ago that they would rather die legally and live morally. Do you have any comment about this?

[Arce] Well, I can make a political comment. I think that, in any event, he has already lost his moral life in the eyes of our people, because a person who has come here to justify the aggression, to defend the genocidal guardsmen, to ask for pardon for those who killed 50,000 Nicaraguans and left so many people mutilated and orphans, is already morally dead in the eyes of our people. That is why I said, when I presented the FSLN's program, that none of the announced candidacies was a source of concern to us.

CRUZ DISCUSSES CONDITIONS FOR ELECTION PARTICIPATION

Report on Press Conference

PA251447 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] Arturo Cruz Porras, the visiting candidate of the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board, has repeated the Reagan administration's message and said that -- in order to hold national elections in November -- a national dialogue should be held, including the counterrevolutionary leaders: Pastora, the traitor, Robelo, and Calero.

During a press conference held yesterday at the Social Democratic Party's headquarters Cruz Porras pledged, before approximately 100 national and foreign journalists, that he would serve as mediator for the contra leaders -- Pastora, Robelo, and Calero -- so that they would put down their weapons if conditions for free elections exist.

Surrounded by the main leaders of the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board's parties -- Luis Rivas Leiva, Erick Ramirez, and vice presidential candidate Adan Fletes Valle -- Cruz Porras pointed out that conditions should allow the contra leaders to vote. He even said that if the conditions were met, he would be willing to withdraw his candidacy in favor of any of the contra leaders.

Throughout the press conference, a group of men shouted slogans such as "Arturo, Arturo, if there are no conditions, we will not participate in the elections." Meanwhile, Jose Espinosa, the Confederation for Unity of Trade Unions delegate at the State Council, was asking (Alvin Weeden) what Arturo said when he replied to the journalists' questions in English.

Candidate Cruz Porras referred to the revolution, saying that it was good in terms of social benefits for the people such as agrarian reform and health; however, he said that he had criticized the revolutionary leadership's deviation of the process. Cruz Porras said he condemned the crimes perpetrated by the Somozist mercenary guards and criticized any indiscriminate attack causing civilian deaths and destruction of production sources. However, he avoided mentioning the name of the aggressor: the U.S. Government.

The Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board's candidate said that the nationalization of banks in our country had been an appropriate government measure, and if he were elected he would not derogate the nationalization law.

No Participation in 'Farce'

PA252135 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1819 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Address by Arturo Cruz, presidential candidate for the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board, at a meeting of the Democratic Coordinating Board in Managua's Cabrera Theater -- live]

[Excerpts] Compatriots [applause], Messrs president and leaders of the Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board; representatives of the organizations that comprise the coordinating board: the Constitutionalist Liberal, Social Christian, and Social Democratic Parties; the Nicaraguan Workers Federation; the Confederation for the Unity of Trade Unions; chambers and associations in the Higher Council of Private Enterprise, the Nicaraguan Conservative Party; fellow citizens who are listening:

Our cause and our attitude are consistent with our democratic credo. Democracy does not have degrees, it is an absolute concept. That is why Nicaragua's democrats did not accept totalitarianism from the extreme right wing yesterday and that is why we will not accept totalitarianism from the extreme left wing today. [applause]

That is the reason, dear compatriots and companeros, that our cry of freedom from yesterday is still valid today. We are aware that serious limitations and all sorts of obstacles will prevent the pursuit of an electoral campaign by our opposition alliance, since the ruling party has a monopoly on television and the other essential communications media. In addition, we have been granted limited space to develop. However, we will not stop our struggle for social justice in freedom. We are not afraid; we will continue forward. [applause]

In July 1979, all of the Nicaraguan people wrote one of the most glorious chapters in our fatherland's history, but unfortunately, the vanguard of the insurrection, once in power, made the decision -- why not say it, the painful decision -- to embrace communism as a political creed, instead of the democracy that we Nicaraguans and the entire free world expected. [applause]

It is in the light of the consequences of that mistaken historic decision that we must examine the 5 years that we have experienced under this ideological orientation and ask ourselves: What does the future hold for the Nicaraguan people if we remain under that system? Let us get to the point.

Because of communism, we have embarked on a foreign policy characterized by alignment with the Soviet Union and hostility toward the United States. The result of this policy is that all of Central America is alarmed. They see us as a center or economic and political instability for the entire region. The result of this is that our neighbors are worried.

Because of communism, the government decided to begin an arms buildup, and what was the result? Our neighbors' concern about and distrust toward Nicaragua increased. These neighbors are arming themselves and are lending their territories to others, but let us recall: In the same way, they lent their territories to the Sandinists during the struggle against Somoza. [applause]

I see now that these neighbors are lending their territories to Nicaraguans who, realizing that vital freedom has been taken from them, decided to rebel.

Because of communism, the state (?seized) more property than it could administer. In this regard, it has been correctly said that it has not always provided compensation [applause] when it should have, and many times it has done so in an arbitrary fashion. The result has been a drop in production and investment, because of a lack of confidence.

It is never too late; for this reason, we proposed that the FSLN undertake a national dialogue that can lead to peace and to economic and social progress for our homeland. The time has come, compatriots, to choose freely between destruction, hunger, and death, caused by the FSLN's stubborn decision to force the country on to a path that is alien to our culture; and bread, peace, and life, as guaranteed by democracy within the community of free Western nations, without excluding friendly relations but also without selling out to the communist countries. [applause, chanting of slogans]

What I say today is not an attempt to incriminate or recriminate the ruling party for campaign purposes. On the contrary, it is an invitation for the leaders of this regime to reflect. For this reason, I want to announce firmly today that of the Coordinating Board's nine points, which are in fact our catechism [applause, cheers], we have decided that the ninth will now be first, because we will not vote if we don't have a genuine electoral process and if it is not guaranteed that we will not be taking part in a farce. So this is the most important human consideration: We are making the ninth point the first. It is the sine qua non condition, because the national dialogue must include the participation of all Nicaraguans, without exception. [appaluse, cheers]

Only in this way can national dignity and peace be secured. Only in this way we can stop the tragedy represented by this fratricidal civil war, which makes all Nicaraguans mourn. We understand that our first obligation is to the mothers, and for this reason, I repeat, we will not go to the elections if a great national dialogue is not held first. [applause, cheers]

In conclusion, I want to point out that the condition that a party must register candidates if it is to remain politically extant constitutes political extortion. It is blackmail, intended to make us participate in a farce. But all of you who are present here may be sure that the force of all of these organizations that have honored Adan and I with their nomination is not merely on paper or a legal trick. The strength of all of these organizations is moral strength, because it represents the political will of the Nicaraguan people. [applause]

ORTEGA REJECTS OPPOSITION'S REQUEST FOR DIALOGUE

PA260128 Paris AFP in Spanish 0014 GMT 26 Jul 84

[Text] Managua, 25 Jul (AFP) -- Today Sandinist junta Coordinator Daniel Ortega rejected outright the Nicaraguan opposition's demands for a dialogue that would include the rebels. "There will be no dialogue with those who are murdering our people," Ortega said in an event to mark the fifth anniversary of the newspaper BARRICADA, the FSLN's official newspaper.

Ortega's statement dashed the hopes of the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board, [CDN] which had demanded a national dialogue, through Arturo Cruz, its presidential candidate, as a condition for its participation in the November elections.

Ortega labeled Adolfo Calero, chief of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN), and Eden Pastora, leader of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE) -- whom Cruz described as his friends -- as "traitors and outlaws."

Meanwhile, it has been learned that FSLN Political Committee Coordinator Bayardo Arce told several CDN members, with whom he met this morning, that "it is impossible to grant greater electoral guarantees" than those provided for by the government to date.

Ortega stressed in his speech that Nicaraguans "should be able to identify the enemy as only one: imperialism, which disguises itself as a party, as a newspaper, or with a cassock," an allusion to the CDN, the newspaper LA PRENSA, and Archbishop Miguel Obando y Bravo.

The foremost Sandinist leader suggested that the opposition presidential candidate visit the war zones, "so he can realize the damage and terror that the Central Intelligence Agency's mercenary bands sow among the civilian inhabitants." Ortega hinted that Cruz's candidacy "may be an imperialist spearhead" to destabilize the revolution domestically. In addition, Ortega described as "seriously threatening" the speech delivered Tuesday by U.S. President Ronald Reagan, who charged that [words indistinct] a Soviet base. Ortega recalled that in November Reagan "defended and justified the invasion of Grenada, arguing that that Caribbean island was a Soviet base." "It was an obdurate, adventuresome, and warmongering speech," Ortega said, adding that the Nicaraguans "are prepared to defend the revolutionary process."

CRUZ ANNOUNCES CDN WITHDRAWAL FROM ELECTIONS

PA260155 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0050 GMT 26 Jul 84

[Text] Arturo Cruz Porras, candidate for the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board [CDN], has announced that they will not register for the elections. The visiting CDN candidate announced today that the parties that comprise that alliance will not register at the Supreme Electoral Council to participate in the November elections.

Cruz Porras announced to more than 100 local and foreign newsmen gathered at the Social Democratic Party Headquarters in Managua that they don't care if they are committing suicide as political parties. Let's listen to him:

[Begin recording] I would like to add that, obviously, we will not campaign. Of course, we are no longer active candidates, in accordance with the decision of the political forces that nominated us and demanded minimal guarantees for a fair electoral process and national unity. We maintain this position. Now, then, the electoral law states:

Political parties that lose their legal status may continue to function as political groups and may once again request legal status, in accordance with what is established in the Nicaraguan constitution that is promulgated.

We could say that we are undertaking this action and have made this decision in accordance with our consciences and in accordance with what we believe is the will of the democratic people of Nicaragua. If functionally, from a purely mechanical viewpoint as a party, we are burying ourselves, well, perhaps this is the case. Although, as Christians, we do not advocate suicide, let me tell you that suicide is a dignified act, at least in the Japanese culture. So let me tell you that we would rather die legally and live morally. [end recording]

Ortega Reaction

PA260210 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0057 GMT 26 Jul 84

[Text] We have here the first reaction from Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction and FSLN presidential candidate, to the announcement by the Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board [CDN] that it will not participate in the elections. Commander Ortega said: That is their problem.

Let's hear the brief remarks Ortega made for this station a few minutes ago:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Commander Ortega, for Radio Sandino; the CDN has just announced that it will not go to the elections. What do you have to say about that?

[Ortega Saavedra] That is their problem. It is not the people's problem, it's their problem. This action unmasks them. It shows what they are really defending.

[Unidentified reporter] They said that [words indistinct] the people because they want a dialogue with the counterrevolution.

[Ortega Saavedra] If they want to talk with the counterrevolutionaries they can do so, but outside Nicaragua. There will be no dialogue with the counterrevolution here in Nicaragua. [end recording]

Further Remarks

PA260409 Paris AFP in Spanish 0324 GMT 26 Jul 84

[Text] Managua, 25 Jul (AFP) -- Sandinist government Coordinator Daniel Ortega tonight asserted that the opposition's withdrawal from the November elections might be part of a U.S. plan to invade Nicaragua. During a speech delivered at one of Managua's theaters, Ortega said: "We cannot afford to lower our guard, because the Reagan administration is making plans to defeat us with the stroke of a pen."

Ortega spoke a few minutes after Arturo Cruz, candidate for the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board, the main opposition alliance, announced that he would not participate in the elections because the government did not agree to a "national dialogue" that would include the participation of rebel armed groups.

In a reference to "contra" leaders Eden Pastora, Adolfo Calero, and Alfonso Robelo, Ortega said: "This gentleman made unacceptable proposals, such as a dialogue with traitors."

Ortega said that, while Cruz was coming to Nicaragua with those traitors, President Reagan was accusing Nicaragua of being a Soviet base, which brings the invasion of Grenada to mind. Ortega pointed out: "Mr Cruz has acted as a U.S. agent and has been lending himself for use in the game to justify greater intervention in our country." He added: "The Reagan administration is certainly planning to engage in direct actions against Nicaragua; it has problems, though, because it is mistaken if it thinks that it will be able to get rid of us with the stroke of a pen."

Ortega asked all Nicaraguans to remain "on the alert, in view of the danger of a U.S. attack."

Commander Bayardo Arce, coordinator of the FSLN's Political Committee, has said that the government made an offer to the opposition on Wednesday that it would lift the state of emergency if all parties sign a letter demanding that the Reagan administration cease its aggression against Nicaragua.

Opposition candidate Cruz, however, described this proposal as "ridiculous and offensive to our nationalism."

Cruz said that to make such a proposal to the U.S. President would be like asking the FSLN to address Chernenko and Fidel Castro and demand that they cease their intervention in the country's affairs.

SOCIALIST PARTY REGISTERS CANDIDATES FOR ELECTIONS

PA241638 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 24 Jul 84

[Text] The Nicaraguan Socialist Party, PSN, has legally registered its candidates for the presidency, the vice presidency, and the national assembly with the Supreme Electoral Tribunal. Domingo Sanchez and Adolfo Evertz [PSN presidential and vice presidential candidates] agreed that this is a historic moment, inasmuch as the Socialist Party neither had the opportunity nor wanted to participate in the farcical elections held by the Somozist military dictatorship, in which only government accomplices participated.

On 24 July, tomorrow, the Democratic Conservative Party and the Communist Party will also register their candidates officially. Meanwhile, the Marxist-Leninist Popular Action Movement and the Popular Social Christian Party have announced their intention to register their candidates on Wednesday.

PLI LEADER SAYS PARTY MAY CONSIDER ALLIANCES

PA250443 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Jul 84

[Text] Virgilio Godoy Reyes, presidential candidate of the Independent Liberal Party [PLI], said that his party could enter into an alliance with other parties should the nation's best interests so demand. The big question then is whether Dr Virgilio Godoy would endorse the presidential candidacy of Dr Arturo Cruz. A statement by PLI leader Dr Virgilio Godoy follows:

[Begin recording] The special national assembly of the Independent Liberal Party adopted several decisions considered of vital importance to the political process under way in the country. The first of these resolutions was to confirm the PLI decision to participate in the elections scheduled for 4 November of the current year; therefore, it will be present throughout the electoral campaign.

However, the national assembly, aware that the proper conditions for the electoral process are still missing, has authorized its national executive committee to analyze the country's situation and to adopt the final decision concerning the party's participation.

Besides, the party's national assembly, although our organization is prepared to go to the elections alone, expressed its willingness, should the nation's best interest so demand it, to consider the possibility of alliances as established by the law. [end recording]

MARXIST-LENINIST MOVEMENT NAMES CANDIDATES

PA251808 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] Isidro Tellez and journalist Juan Alberto Enriquez have been chosen as presidential and vice presidential candidates by the Marxist-Leninist Peoples Action Movement, MAP-ML. The announcement regarding the movement's candidates for the upcoming election was made last night at a meeting of MAP-ML members and followers. In addition, the movement announced the names of candidates to the national constituent assembly, who were chosen from six regions in the country. It was also reported at the meeting that, at 0900 today, the MAP-ML presidential and vice presidential candidates would be registered at the Supreme Electoral Council.

BARRICADA URGES CITIZENS TO REGISTER, VOTE

PA241526 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 23 Jul 84 p 3

[Editorial: "To Register Is a Citizen's Duty"]

[Text] We are only 3 days from the initial steps toward a historic event: The registration of voters, which will permit to exercise the right to uphold the revolution with our ballots, just as many have upheld it and others are now upholding it with their lives.

While the electoral law specifies that this civic event, registration, is the duty of all citizens, it is truly much more than that. It is a conscientious and necessary political action that every son of this homeland can and must carry out in this stage of our history, whether he is a revolutionary or not. If he is a revolutionary, he will carry out this duty with a dual right to choose the leaders of his country and revolution.

Only those who adhere to extreme misinformation and those who advocate an extreme reactionary position, who come together to create a series of dark and negative viewpoints, can forego this patriotic duty. Fortunately for the Nicaraguan people, there are only a few who are insensitive to the fact that in today's world, we are citizens of a country where we have the privilege of being the creators and shapers, or simply witnesses to, the birth and development of a genuine revolution, a revolution that is developing on all fronts.

This revolution is an act of historic and universal importance, began by a handful of Nicaraguans at great sacrifice. Others worked to promote this revolution, loyal to the ideals of its creators, we must all continue to consolidate it, increasing our efforts, our work, and our sacrifices. If we were not all lucky enough to contribute to the liberation of Nicaragua from the outset, regardless of the reasons, we all have the opportunity to consolidate it now.

In the current stage, we may act to consolidate the revolution in the freest possible way by participating in elections, for we are now able to express our own wills for the first time in history, acting in good conscience. We may now continue to do our duty and may confirm our right to do so in liberty.

We have many reasons to be satisfied with meeting our obligation to register now and vote later, but there is one specific reason that clearly reveals the true importance of these two civic acts: It is that we are citizens in a country in which, unlike most of this continent and the rest of the world, elections will be held without imperialist interference and without the presence of rulers who serve imperialism and whose social origins contradict the interests of the working people.

Here and now, in these glorious days of the revolution, we will register to vote for our neighborhood companero, for our companero at work or on the farm, for our children's teacher, for the honest official who is devoted to the implementation of our social programs, for the newsman who gives us the message of truth every day, for the companera at the market who joins us in the struggle against problems created by the attacks on our national economy, or for the friend of our sons or brothers who became involved in the struggle to build a new society early in his life.

In sum, we will register to vote for the revolutionary leader who was tested when he went underground, when he was in jail, when he was persecuted, when he was exiled, when he was tortured, and when he was oppressed. We will vote for the revolutionary leader who never ceased to think and to act for the liberation of all Nicaraguans.

We must register first and vote freely later, so that this relationship between ideals and actions and between the people and their vanguard and leaders can be confirmed, within the framework of social change.

FSLN PRAISED FOR CREATING CONDITIONS FOR ELECTIONS

PA252016 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Carlos Chamorro Coronel feature from "Beyond the News Reports:" "Nicaragua's Example"]

[Text] During an interview granted by Commander of the Revolution Bayardo Arce Castano, coordinator of the FSLN National Directorate's Political Commission, after making the official presentation of the FSLN's candidates for the upcoming presidential elections, certain truths were clearly established, and it is appropriate to recall them.

First of all, if we now have the possibility of holding elections, with the participation of even the opposition parties, it is because the FSLN exists. This apparently simple fact has been significant in our history. Bayardo said rightfully that we were deprived of the right to political participation during the dictatorship; the FSLN was not recognized, it was tenaciously persecuted. Sandinist members were forbidden to express their opinions, and they were murdered. Therefore, we were born as a political organization representing what Sandino called the armed citizens, and this is precisely why our political enemies cannot forgive us. Deep inside they do not wish to recognize the fact that self-determination or political independence, such less really free elections, cannot be possible without sovereignty.

In other words, the FSLN created, through its prolonged and painful struggle to recover the peoples' right to speak, the appropriate and necessary atmosphere to hold elections. Otherwise this would be impossible, because we would be compelled to accept, as in the past, Washington's mandates, which its straw candidates are trying to impose at bayonet point or through bribery; they are completely submissive to their master's will. However, the same candidates, who even offer toothpaste, now reluctantly admit that they would not have the possibility to dissent without the political space created by the revolution. This was never possible during the long night of Somozism.

They are well aware of this, even though they deny it. This possibility does not exist in El Salvador or Guatemala. Therefore, the so-called opposition parties would be acting erroneously if they missed the magnificant opportunity offered by the revolution: to work united in the construction of a new Nicaragua.

ARDE, FDN REPRESENTATIVES MEET IN PANAMA

PA250437 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 24 Jul 84

[Excerpts] High-level talks between the Nicaraguan Democratic Force, FDN, and the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, representatives began in Panama City this morning in order to decide on the political and military coordination. ARDE's Alfonso Robelo Callejas and FDN's Adolfo Calero Portocarrero will discuss a coordination proposal prepared by the committees that have met several times in the past few months to achieve this coordination.

Calero, directorate president and military chief; Dr Indalecio Rodriguez, and Alfonso Callejas [as heard] represented the FDN, while Robelo, a representative of Fernando Chamorro, new ARDE military chief, and Social Christian party member (Roberto Ferrey), represented ARDE.

Although the final outcome of the meeting between the two groups has not been reported, the possibility has been considered that a communique may be released today or tomorrow. In case an agreement between FDN and ARDE is achieved, fighters against the Managua government will total more than 15,000 men.

Sign 'Conciliation Agreement'

PA251840 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] Listeners throughout the country, this is Julio Miller reporting from Panama City. A few minutes ago, the Nicaraguan Democratic Force [FDN] and the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance [ARDE] -- the two organizations having the greatest social-political weight in the armed struggle being waged in that brother Central American country -- signed a very important agreement in this capital.

The agreement, called the Panama Agreement for National Conciliation, states: Before God and the fatherland, for the unity in peace and liberty of the Nicaraguan and Central American people -- whose historic identity is being threatened by totalitarian Marxism-Leninism -- we, the representatives of ARDE and FDN, agree:

1. To struggle jointly to liberate our fatherland, which is being oppressed by the totalitarian Marxist-Leninist regime and intervened in by foreign forces and to combat any attempt to return to the past.

2. To install in Nicaragua a transitory national conciliation government that will have the priority mission of initiating the democratization of the country, a process that will culminate, at the end of a year, with truly free elections guaranteed by inter-American organizations.

The agreement also expresses gratitude and support for the patriotic efforts being conducted by citizens and organizations that are confronting the consolidation of totalitarianism within Nicaragua. The agreement denounces the intransigency of the dictatorship, which has frustrated the work of hemispheric organizations that might have prevented the fraticidal war. The agreement also reaffirms faith in the inter-American system, convinced that perseverance will contribute to the democratization of Nicaragua, a basis for peace and stability in the region.

6. [number as heard] To proclaim that, inspired by our forefathers, we will give impetus to our nationalist endeavor, joining efforts to fight Sandinist totalitarianism, thus responding to the historic mandate of a people bleeding to be free.

To urge freedom-loving people so that united we may defeat the tyranny, check the Soviet expansionist threat, and establish a lasting peace.

Signed in Panama City, Panama, on 24 July 1984, anniversary of the birth of Simon Bolivar, the Liberator by Alfonso Robelo, Roberto Ferreira, and Juan Sabala on behalf of ARDE; and Adolfo Calero, Alfonso Callejas, and Indalecio Rodriguez on behalf of the FDN.

This agreement was signed only a few minutes ago in Panama City. Legislators Mayin Correa and Mario J. de Obaldia were present at this important ceremony, held somewhere in this capital. This has been an exclusive report.

COMMUNIQUE SAYS 8,000 FIGHTERS LOYAL TO PASTORA

PA260222 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 26 Jul 84

[Text] A communique released by the faction that is loyal to Commander Cero said that Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, has 8,000 fighters in southern Nicaragua who continue to obey Eden Pastora's orders. The report said: This is the only true and legitimate ARDE, to whose call 8,000 combatants have responded and will respond until victory or defeat, under Pastora's command. The communique was signed by Eden Pastora of the Sandino Revolutionary Front, Jose Davila of the Christian Democratic Solidarity Front, and Donald (Capil) of the Movement of Solidarity with Nicaraguan Democratic Workers.

VOICE OF SANDINO ON CLASH IN RIO SAN JUAN

PA251900 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 2300 GMT 24 Jul 84

[General Command of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, Armed Forces War Bulletin No 277, issued in Sarapiqui, "free territory of Nicaragua," 24 July]

[Text] The General Command of the ARDE Armed Forces reports to the Nicaraguan people and the world's friendly peoples that:

1. At 0630 on 19 July, the heroic Domingo Antonio Gutierrez Jiron Column and Pajaro Blanco Squads No 2 and 5 under Companero Nayo attacked the pro-Soviet Sandinist People's Army, EPC, Army in Chato Medrano settlement, 8 km from San Miguelito, Rio San Juan Department.

2. During this clash, the ARDE revolutionary and Sandinist troops inflicted 11 dead and numerous injuries on the Army of the nine terrorists and traitors.

Following this clash that lasted 30 minutes, our revolutionary troops withdrew to camps in territories freed by ARDE. Our troops suffered no casualties. The peasant insurrection will defeat the traitors of our revolution and its Cuban-Soviet occupation army.

Without totalitarianism or a return to the past!

[Signed] Eden Pastora Gomez, General Commander of the ARDE Armed Forces

REPORTAGE ON MONCADA ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Castro To Speak in Cienfuegos

FL251114 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the party's Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, will give a speech tomorrow for the central ceremony commemorating the 31st anniversary of the attack on Moncada Barracks.

More than 100,000 people from Cienfuegos Province will be present at the esplanade which has just been built in Cienfuegos City. Approximately one-fifth of the participants will be comrades who have been selected for their excellence in performance in defense, education, and production, and the rest will be representatives of the people of Cienfuegos City. The ceremony will begin at 1800 and will be broadcast by national radio and television as well as by Radio Havana Cuba, the international transmission.

Soviet Union Sends Message

FL251218 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, and the USSR Council of Ministers have sent a letter to Commander in Chief Fidel Castro on the 31st anniversary of the assault on Moncada Barracks.

Part of the letter reads: The Cuban peoples' burning desire for dedicating themselves entirely to work which is peaceful and creative but is hindered by imperialism's unceasing pressure, blockades, threats, and provocations is sincerely and profoundly understood by the Soviet people. The Soviet people are in solidarity with the Cuban peoples' unyielding struggle in securing liberty, independence, and a nation at peace. The Soviet Union is a loyal friend and ally of Cuba in this just struggle. On Cuba's side are the community of socialist nations, the peace-loving nations, and all the world's progressive forces.

Nicaraguan Delegation To Arrive

FL251728 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge Martinez will head the Nicaraguan delegation that will leave today for Cuba to participate in the events commemorating the 31st anniversary of the assault on Moncada Barracks.

Along with Borge, who is a member of the FSLN's National Directorate and minister of interior, will be Brigade Commanders Lenin Cerna and Hugo Torres, respectively, director general of state security and chief of the political section of the Sandinist People's Army. Commander (Doris Vicerino), minister of the Junta of Reconstruction of Managua [as heard] Samuel Santos, Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Leon Talavera, and Arnulfo Rupia, an official of the FSLN Foreign Relations Department, are also members of the delegation.

CUBAN-CZECHOSLOVAK TRADE WEEK CELEBRATED

FL250143 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] The Cuban-Czechoslovak Trade Week that will be celebrated in Cuba until 31 July has been inaugurated with a ceremony in which persons employed in trade and the Cuban people in general participated. Minister of Domestic Trade Manuel Vila Sosa opened the ceremony and said that the act of opening a store with products from the brother socialist nation consolidates the efforts that the two nations are making in this field. He added that these stores will improve the Cuban people's chance to buy certain products. Comrade Antonin Jakubik, Czechoslovak minister of domestic trade of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, expressed his gratitude for the reception that our people gave to the delegation accompanying him.

STUDENTS LEAVE FOR USSR FOR NUCLEAR STUDIES

FL251744 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] Carlos Lage, alternate Central Committee member and first secretary of the Union of Young Communists' [UJC] national committee, has presided over the farewell ceremony for students who will go to the Soviet Union and other socialist countries to study specialties in nuclear science.

GHANA'S RAWLINGS ARRIVES IN SANTIAGO DE CUBA

FL251830 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] Flight Lieutenant Jerry John Rawlings, chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council of Ghana, arrived in Santiago de Cuba this morning. On their trip to this city, the Ghanaian leader and his delegation were accompanied by Politburo member Jorge Risquet Valdes. Rawlings was welcomed at the airport by Jose Ramon Balaguer Cabrera, member of the Party Central Committee and first secretary of the party in Santiago de Cuba Province, and other leaders of the party, government, and mass organizations, as well as by members of the public who had gathered at the airport. Flight Lt Jerry John Rawlings has been in our country since last Monday at the invitation of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Party Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers. In Santiago de Cuba, the Ghanaian chief of state will visit places of historic and economic interest.

'OUR AMERICA' COMMENTARY ON EL SALVADOR'S DUARTE

PA251901 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 25 Jul 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] On 1 March 1931, 53 years ago, Arturo Araujo was sworn in as president of El Salvador as a result of elections that were proclaimed as democratic following 14 years of governments ruled by a single family.

Araujo's presidential term ended on 2 December of the same year when his war, Navy, and Air Force minister, General Maximiliano Hernandez, led a coup d'etat that sent the president into exile in Guatemala. Then began a long history of military governments that followed one after the other. They were sometimes disguised as juntas and other times as civilian governments, with civilians holding the presidency -- which is the current case of Jose Napoleon Duarte, a Christian Democrat with a lengthy record in the country's history of repression.

The Duarte government has a twofold role to play. On one hand, it will give the dictatorship a civilian and democratic facade. On the other, it will justify an increase in the U.S. economic, political, and military intervention in El Salvador. This is why the Salvadoran Government has two faces. First of all, it is a reformist regime -- part of U.S. imperialism's holding maneuver to neutralize and defeat the guerrilla forces. Second, it is a reactionary government that is using a democratic cover to try and fix the current economic, political, and social decay to benefit the dependent capitalist system of El Salvador.

The U.S. Government greatly influences the decisions of the El Salvador regime since Washington plays the strategic role of the cohesive force that links the factions within the Salvadoran bloc in power. Because of this, the Christian Democratic authorities will make important economic and political concessions to the most reactionary sectors and this, in the end, will benefit the interests of the local oligarchy. Duarte will obtain millions in U.S. aid and he will try to produce economic reactivation in the country. Two more aspects must be considered in analyzing the future of the Duarte administration. One is the case of the death squads. Duarte has promised that he will investigate them and punish the people responsible for crimes. However, it is impossible to carry out a true investigation under the current conditions because this would mean touching the heart of the squads, which means touching high-ranking military chiefs who have important positions in the new Salvadoran Government.

The other aspect is political prisoners. Jose Napoleon Duarte can promise very little in this regard. All he can do is increase the scientific and selective arrests of revolutionaries. He will try to put some prisoners at the disposal of courts but he will continue the practice of allowing revolutionaries with a lengthy political record to disappear.

At the international level, Duarte has toured Western Europe trying to create a decent image for his government and to secure economic aid. However, his maneuvers will not fool the people and governments that support the struggle for the liberation of the Salvadoran patriots.

PRESIDENT REAGAN'S PRESS CONFERENCE NOTED

FL251208 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1102 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan has reiterated his attacks against Nicaragua and hinted that if he wins the upcoming presidential election, he would continue to support the covert war against that Central American country. During his 26th press conference, held last night in the White House, Reagan accused the Sandinist government of having supposed links with the Salvadoran guerrillas and of setting up a totalitarian regime. He urged the U.S. Congress to approve new emergency shipments of military aid to El Salvador. He said that some congressmen had decided to let that country die slowly by denying it the requested military funds. On domestic policy, Reagan shied away from holding six televised debates with Democratic presidential candidate Walter Mondale, saying that the decision on when and where to have a debate is up to those who are planning his campaign strategy.

Further Reagan Remarks

FL251420 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan has again tried to justify the CIA's covert war against Nicaragua, and implicitly said that this campaign would continue if he is reelected in November. Reagan reiterated to the press his accusations against the Nicaraguan Government of trying to destroy El Salvador and install a totalitarian government.

Referring to the U.S. invasion of Grenada last October President Reagan said it was his administration's responsibility to help the Nicaraguan people, so that they would know that such a case will not occur again.

Reagan's most aggressive statements against Nicaragua were made when a reporter asked Reagan for his reaction to Democratic presidential candidate Walter Mondale's promise that if elected, he would end, within 100 days, the CIA's plans for Nicaragua.

FMLN-FDR ISSUE COMMUNIQUE ON DIALOGUE

PA260049 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] In Paris, the FMLN and the FDR of El Salvador have reiterated their willingness to enter into dialogue with the Salvadoran Government in the search for a negotiated solution to the conflict in that Central American nation.

In a communique issued by representatives of the FMLN-FDR political-diplomatic commission, the two groups pointed out that despite the Salvadoran Government's negative attitude toward the proposals for dialogue, the Salvadoran revolutionaries do not reject the idea that President Jose Napoleon Duarte may sooner or later decide to pursue a negotiated solution. The document also denounced the U.S. intervention in the region, and reiterated that the FMLN controls a third of Salvadoran territory and that it is a real military, political, and administrative force in large parts of the country.

PROVINCIAL PLAN STRESSES PROFITABILITY, DEFENSE

FL251524 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] Cuba's Communist Party provincial bureau in Pinar del Rio has approved a plan to give thrust to programs which have been envisioned before presenting its report to the National Assembly of Peoples Government [ANPP]. Special emphasis is placed on the conservation of electricity and the selection of highly productive volunteer workers who will mainly work in the tobacco, sugar, and agricultural campaigns. Also emphasized was profitability and defense; in this area the people of Pinar del Rio have conducted 28 priority tasks in saluting 2 December, the 28th anniversary of disembarking from the Granma.

BARBADOS

NEW DISH ANTENNA WILL BRING MORE TV PROGRAMMING

FL171826 Bridgetown CANA in English 1724 GMT 17 Jul 84

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, July 17, CANA -- The state-owned Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) inaugurated 39-foot satellite dish antenna yesterday and announced an extension of television broadcast time and an additional four channels to receive North American programmes.

Ronnie Hughes, chairman of CBC which operates the lone TV station here, said that the first live telecast using the new facility will be the opening ceremony of the Los Angeles Olympics on July 28.

Hughes said CBC programming will be by agreement with U.S. networks. The pirating of American satellite material has become an issue between Washington and other Caribbean islands. He gave no dates for the extension of channels or programming to a maximum 12 hours a day, but said a subscription fee of between 25 and 30 dollars (one Bds dollar; 50 U.S. cents), will be charged for the former.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, minister of information, Senator Nigel Barrow ruled out cable television for the island. He cited the cost of the service, a survey that showed Barbadians wanted only three or four channels and said he did not want to see satellite material whether pornographic or not, beamed into people's homes at any hour of the day. Hughes said CBD had decided against 24-hour programming after a study of other countries which showed that continuous television had resulted in mass absenteeism from work and school. Two weeks ago, CBC started a pop-music radio service called Liberty Radio to add to its 24-hour am service. Liberty operates for 11 hours.

GUADELOUPE

BOMBINGS KILL 4 IN POINTE-A-PITRE, BASSE TERRE

NC250827 Paris AFP in English 0728 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] Pointe-a-Pitre, Guadeloupe, July 25 (AFP) -- Four people were killed overnight when bombs blew two parked cars apart on this French Caribbean island, hit by a series of explosions in the last two months, officials said. Police were considering the possibility the four were victims of their own bombs. But their identity was not immediately clear because of their extensive injuries and no announcement was made. The deaths, in blasts here and in Basse Terre, were the first in recent violence. The island is thought to have a small but active separatist group.

The Pointe-a-Pitre blast, in a quiet dimly-lit street in the old city, was followed by a violent blaze, police said. Witnesses dragged one man from the blazing car but he died soon afterwards. The other man was on the pavement.

At Basse Terre the blast on a parking lot, on the edge of the town, left two men in the car near-unidentifiable, police said.

Separatist Movement Suspected

FL251500 Bridgetown CANA in English 1444 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] Fort-de-France, Martinique, July 25, CANA-REUTER -- Four people were killed by two car bombs in France's Caribbean island of Guadeloupe early today, police said. Investigators suspected the victims were bombers killed when explosive devices they were transporting went off prematurely, a spokesman said.

One of the dead was identified as Architect Jack Herthelot known to belong to the separatist movement in Guadeloupe. The others had been blown apart, making identification difficult. The first bomb went off in a small street in Pointe-a-Pitre and the second in a supermarket car park in Basse Terre.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility, but the official said it was likely the bombs were the work of the Caribbean Revolutionary Alliance (ARC), a banned separatist group that has been waging a campaign of urban violence in Guadeloupe, Martinique, and French Guiana.

Another bomb of about one kilo (2.2 pounds) exploded about four hours later outside a shop in Morne-a-Leau, north of Pointe-a-Pitre, causing damage but no injuries.

JAMAICA

SUGAR CROP TO PRODUCE 193,000 LONG TONS

FL251629 Bridgetown CANA in English 1913 GMT 24 Jul 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, July 24, CANA -- Sugar industry officials said today Jamaica's 1984 crop, which ends next month, should produce approximately 193,000 long tons, the same as last year.

"We still have five factories grinding...and by the time all the factories close sometime in August, we would expect production of between 193,000 and 194,000 tons," a spokesman at the Sugar Industry Authority (SIA) said. He said that up to last weekend 188,690 tons of sugar had been produced. By the time crop ends officials hope to have reaped 2.5 million tonnes of cane, just over 200,000 tons more than last crop.

But because of lower sucrose content this year the cane yield will not translate into increased sugar production. Last crop it took an average 11.41 tons of cane to produce a ton of sugar, SIA officials said, but this crop the average has been 12.26 tons of cane.

There are 11 operating sugar factories here, six of them owned by the government through the National Sugar Company (NSC).

The government, under its programme with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), is pledged to shut down three of its factories at the end of the current crop and to hand the others over to private sector management. Recently one factory that had been earmarked for closure was handed over to a local group for management, indicating that four instead of three of the government factories will be kept running.

The government has been in talks with the British transnational Tate and Lyle to manage one or two factories here and were nearing an agreement, sugar sources said.

Tate and Lyle was previously the major owner of the Jamaica sugar industry but sold out a deteriorating industry to the government and left the country all together in the 1970's when the problems deepened.

Despite several programmes for resuscitating and restructuring, sugar has performed poorly and outputs for the 1980's have been the worst since the 1950's.

ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

GOOD VOTER TURNOUT REPORTED IN GENERAL ELECTION

FL252338 Bridgetown CANA in English 2301 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] Kingstown, St Vincent, July 25, CANA -- Electoral officials today reported a good voter turnout in St Vincent and the Grenadines general elections despite heavy rain. Chief electoral officer Egbert Samuel said that all reports indicated that there was a heavy turnout of voters, who used umbrellas, raincoats, and lumberjacks and any other rain gear to brace the rain linked to a tropical depression in the eastern Caribbean. "Everyone reported that polling in some stations was heavy, but that everything went on quite orderly," he said.

Five parties are vying for the 13 seats in this election, the second since independence in 1979.

The polls were closed at 1700 hours local time and the first results from the 156 polling stations are expected to be known shortly.

Prime Minister Milton Cato's Labour Party is tipped to win an unprecedented third term in spite of a strong challenge from the New Democratic Party led by former Premier James Mitchell. Some 42,829 people were eligible to vote for 42 candidates in the 13 constituencies in this general election, which has been called eight months early. The Labour Party, which had a 10 to three majority in the 13-seat parliament, campaigned on its record of economic achievement and the island's political stability.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

TRADE COOPERATION ACCORD SIGNED WITH CHINA

FL252300 Bridgetown CANA in English 2127 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, July 25, CANA -- China and Trinidad and Tobago today signed an agreement on trade and economic co-operation here today, official sources said.

The signing came as a three-day visit of a top level Chinese delegation led by Vice Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Jia Shi ended. No details of the agreement were revealed but, according to sources, one of the main points of interest was a stated desire by the Chinese to buy Trinidad and Tobago's wire rods, fertiliser, and asphalt.

Last Monday, Trinidad and Tobago's Industry and Commerce Minister Desmond Cartey told the Chinese officials that official figures for the first six months of last year indicated that the twin-island state would exceed its nine million dollars (1 TT dollar; 41 cents U.S.) worth of imports from China registered in 1982. "Conversely, Trinidad and Tobago's exports to China are virtually non-existent," Cartey stated.

At the close of talks in Cartey's Riverside Plaza office here today, the Chinese vice minister said he was pleased at the signing of the agreement, and relations between the two countries would be "further developed" as talks continued.

Cartey -- who presented the Chinese delegation with gifts including Trinidad and Tobago rum and a steelband music album -- noted that the talks had achieved "tangible results" with the signing of the agreement.

The Chinese team was due to pay a courtesy call on Prime Minister George Chambers this evening. They leave Trinidad and Tobago tonight, the sources said.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

PRESIDENT JORGE NAMES FUEL PRICE COMMISSION

FL251523 Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 21 Jul 84 p 1

[By Maximo Manuel Perez]

[Text] President Salvador Jorge Blanco has appointed a high-level commission to set the scale of petroleum product price increases that the government has ordered as a result of the transfer of crude oil imports to a preferential or intermediate market.

Energy and Commerce Secretary Jose Antonio Najri will chair the commission. Other members are Finance Secretary Hugo Guilliani; Central Bank Governor Jose Santos Taveras; presidential economic adviser Dr Milton Messina; Dr Eduardo Tajera, director of the Dominican Export Promotion Center; Controller General Benvendio Brito; and Jose Michelen, director of the Price Stabilization Institute.

The president, who said that it was necessary to await the results of the report recommending these officials, stated that the government has not yet set the amount of the increases.

The officials who will make up the technical commission did not wish to comment on the job given them by Jorge Blanco but there was a consensus that press reports about the new fuel prices were speculation.

SURINAME

AGREEMENT WITH NICARAGUA ON AMBASSADOR EXCHANGE

FL251840 Hilversum International Service in English 1000 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] Suriname and Nicaragua have agreed to exchange ambassadors. A statement to this effect has been released following a visit Surinamese Army Commander Desi Bouterse paid to Nicaragua last week.

In the statement, the two countries denounce what they call the destabilizing activities of which they are the victims. The Nicaraguan Government expresses its solidarity with Suriname's attempt to build a future without foreign interference.

The Sandinist junta leader Daniel Ortega has accepted an invitation to visit Suriname.

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADOR TO GUYANA -- Georgetown, Guyana, July 19, CANA -- Suriname's new ambassador to Guyana, John Kolader, has arrived here to take up his appointment, filling a nearly two-year-old vacancy. Kolander succeeds Hendrick Herrenberg who left Guyana on August 14, 1982. [Excerpts] [Bridgetwon CANA in English 1859 GMT 19 Jul 84 FL]